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For Immediate Release:

Veterans Memorial Committee Establishes Fund for Long-Term Support

Knox, Ind.— The Veteran’s Memorial Committee, in partnership with the Starke County Park Board, has established the Starke County Veteran’s Memorial Maintenance Fund, a permanent endowment fund with the Starke County Community Foundation, Inc. (SCCF). This fund will support the maintenance and any potential future expansions of the Starke County Veteran’s Memorial Plaza.

The Veteran’s Memorial Committee held a dedication for the monument on Veterans Day 2020. The Committee has expressed that it was their intention to create a place where visitors can sit, meditate, and reflect on the great sacrifices our servicemen and women have made to secure and maintain our freedoms. The Memorial honors local veterans who have been killed in active duty during and since the Civil War. Commemorative bricks are also part of the display, which feature sponsors and honor loved ones.

Previously, the Park Board set up a non-permanent fund with the SCCF, which enabled donors to give gifts that supported immediate expenses for the construction of the Memorial. The establishment of an endowed maintenance fund with the SCCF gives donors the opportunity to give a tax-deductible gift that will support the future needs of the Memorial.

“Gifts to endowment funds are never spent,” said SCCF Director of Development Jessica Martinovic. “Instead, they are invested, and a portion of the earnings goes to the project every year forever, and another portion goes back into the fund to help it continue to grow.”

Starke County Commissioner and Veterans Memorial Committee member Kathy Norem expressed her eagerness to continue to partner with the Community Foundation on this project. “Having an endowment fund for this project helps us to ensure that the Memorial will not only be taken care of now, but forever,” said Norem. “It ensures that we’ll always be able to respect and honor our servicemen and women in the way they deserve.”

To give a gift to support the Memorial now and in the future, visit nicf.org and click “Donate.” Under “Designate Your Gift,” choose the **Starke County Veterans Memorial Maintenance Fund**. Checks can be mailed and made out to NICF, PO Box 807, Rochester, IN 46975. Note “Veteran’s Memorial Maintenance Fund” in the memo.

For more information, contact SCCF Director of Development Jessica Martinovic at 574-772-3665 or starke@nicf.org.

The Starke County Community Foundation is an affiliate of the Northern Indiana Community Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) public trust. The mission of the Community Foundation is to improve the quality of lives in our communities by assisting donors in

fulfilling their charitable wishes **forever**. We do this by building endowment funds for our communities with contributions, both large and small.

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