

Carmel Education Foundation

2025-2026 Student Led Great Idea Grant Awards

Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
Audrey	Carmel High School	TechHOUNDS Adaptive Toy Initiative	Larry Griggs
<i>The TechHOUNDS robotics knowledge and dedication enable the team to modify electronic toys for students in special education programs and districts across the state. These interactive toys can serve as educational tools and motivators to stimulate and engage students with disabilities, mobility constraints and who are blind/low visibility.</i>			
Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
Nina	Carmel High School	Economics Outreach Initiatives	Michelle Foutz
Asini	Carmel High School	Economics Outreach Initiatives	Michelle Foutz
Sophia	Carmel High School	Economics Outreach Initiatives	Michelle Foutz
Alan	Carmel High School	Economics Outreach Initiatives	Michelle Foutz
<i>The EconOlympics is a middle school competition run by Carmel High School's Economics Club. The competition aims to spark student interest and exposure in economics from a young age. Additionally, this initiative has extended beyond the competition, as they visit Smoky Row Elementary to teach their 2nd grade state economic standards in a fun and engaging way.</i>			
Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
Kaiwen	Carmel High School	Carmel Liquid Propulsion Program	Zac Bonewit
Ankur	Carmel High School	Carmel Liquid Propulsion Program	Zac Bonewit
Shlokh	Carmel High School	Carmel Liquid Propulsion Program	Zac Bonewit
Omar	Carmel High School	Carmel Liquid Propulsion Program	Zac Bonewit
<i>The team will develop an open-source, liquid-fueled rocket based on the well-documented Half-Cat Mojave Sphinx (isopropyl alcohol + nitrous oxide). Using grant funding, students will design, build, and test the vehicle. The project is inspired by prior outreach and Tripoli Rocketry Association's approval of amateur liquid rockets; they plan to attempt a launch at the Pence, Indiana site in April alongside collegiate teams. The Carmel Liquid Propulsion Program will deliver practical manufacturing and testing experience while broadening community STEM engagement.</i>			
Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
Eve	Clay Middle School	Comfort in the Cold	Liz Wegner & Evan Snyder
Ella	Clay Middle School	Comfort in the Cold	Liz Wegner & Evan Snyder
Kincie	Clay Middle School	Comfort in the Cold	Liz Wegner & Evan Snyder
Rithiksha	Clay Middle School	Comfort in the Cold	Liz Wegner & Evan Snyder
<i>Clay Middle School 8th-grade AVID students designed a service project proposal, "Comfort in the Cold!" to support people experiencing homelessness. This project will unite 150 AVID students to create handmade, no-sew fleece blankets. The blankets will be donated to local shelters, providing critical warmth during cold months.</i>			
Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
William	Carmel Middle School	Cou-Gears Expansion Grant	Katherine Russo
<i>The Cou-Gears robotics team is expanding to enhance competitiveness and innovation. This grant will fund new parts, including pneumatics kits and organization systems, to streamline the building process and elevate robot performance. These upgrades will help our students refine engineering skills, strengthen teamwork, and increase their chances of qualifying for State Championships, and the World Championship.</i>			
Grantee	School	Project Title	CCS Mentor
Emma	Creekside Middle School	Carmel Biology Quest Project	Stephanie Conklin
<i>This fun and friendly class + competition is perfect for young biology enthusiasts who are preparing for middle school Science Olympiad or Science Bowl. All supplies will be provided and all participants will receive a certificate of participation.</i>			