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WHCU 870 AM News Talk



IPEI Campaign Raises Over \$600,000

The [Ithaca Public Education Initiative](#) has announced its capital campaign goal.

The independent, nonprofit organization has announced it has exceeded its goal of \$600,000 and raised a total of \$624,000 from over 200 donors.

The money raised will go towards strengthening IPEI's educational grants and programs, such as the "Kids Discover the Trail" program, which brings students to Discovery Trails in the region.

IPEI President Terry Byrnes says the focus of this year's capital campaign has been the future of Ithaca's children and schools.

"Most capital campaigns feature a building, and you will note that we're not building a building, what we're building is the future for not only our organizations but also for the students and teachers of the Ithaca City School District.

About a quarter of the money raised will go toward strengthening the non-profit's endowment fund, which Vice President Jennifer Engel says will ensure a bright future for the area's students.

"One of the priorities of the campaign was to build an endowment from IPEI, one that will grow in importance and size over time," Engel said. "This unrestricted endowment means IPEI will be part of our community for a long time to come."

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