

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc.

Once a city program, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc., (KIB) is now a not-for-profit organization dedicated to a mission of greenspace development, beautification and education. KIB accomplishes its mission through several programs such as Project Green Schools, Adopt-A-Block & Great Indy Cleanup and NeighborWoods & Youth Corps.



To truly embody its mission and its role as a community leader and educator, KIB undertook the redevelopment of a brownfield site at its new headquarters. Since its inception, KIB has operated out of several facilities around Indianapolis-including a 9th story office and warehouses throughout the city. In 2007, an anonymous donor approached KIB with a \$350,000 donation to consolidate its operations into one facility. KIB selected a site in the Fountain Square neighborhood, which has housed various companies, including a former metal finishing facility and a dry cleaner. Ever conscious of its mission to educate, KIB realized that not only choosing this site would consolidate its operations and thus increase efficiencies in delivering services to the community, but the new KIB headquarters could operate as a civic example of sustainable design and redevelopment and contribute to the vitality and aesthetics in one of the city's great neighborhoods and cultural districts.

David Forsell, president of KIB stated, "With brownfields, you can't just focus on the obstacles, but the success you can achieve. Our (KIB's) mission is about finding solutions." With a \$70,000 petroleum remediation grant from the Indiana Brownfields Program, KIB removed underground storage tanks and contaminated soil, making the property acceptable for use as the future KIB headquarters.

The new headquarters will also reflect KIB's values as it seeks certification of its project by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)'s LEED Program. The new building will incorporate many sustainable designs and practices, such as the following:

- natural light and views,
- high-efficiency appliances,
- high-efficiency heating and cooling,
- bike parking,
- low or no volatile organic compounds (VOC)-containing paints,
- occupancy-activated lighting,
- white reflective roof,
- pervious concrete,
- rain gardens,
- stormwater-capturing cistern,
- drought-tolerant native plants, and
- wind energy demonstration.



The KIB headquarters project allows the company to practice what it preaches. By completing the project in a sustainable manner, KIB is protecting and improving the environment, contributing to the local economy, and providing opportunities for neighborhood improvement.