

Albion Fellows Bacon receives \$4,694 grant

A \$4,694 grant from Verizon Wireless and the Pacers Foundation will mean a renovated playground for the Albion Fellows Bacon Center.

The grant, announced Tuesday, comes from money raised during Indiana Pacers regular-season games in 2007-08.

For every field goal scored by a Pacers player, Verizon Wireless donated \$2 to the foundation.

The center, which serves women and children who are victims of domestic violence, will use the money to spruce up its existing playground.

Executive Director Candice Perry said there currently are no shade trees around the playground, and the equipment is "tired and dated."

"It's a blank canvas," she said. "We're just hoping to fill it in."

Quinn Buckner, a Pacers Foundation board member and vice president of communications for the basketball team, said the organization decided to give the entire amount raised to Albion Fellows Bacon after reviewing the group's grant application. The amount was \$1,000 more than the center requested.

Perry said the center hopes to begin work on the playground in the spring and have it finished by early summer.

The center sheltered 325 women and 280 children last year, Perry said.

— *Rebecca Morris*