

**Collection #**  
**M 1214**

**PAULA PARKER-SAWYERS PAPERS**  
**CA. 1974–2004, 2016**

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

Processed by

Rebecca Pattillo  
February, 2016

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department  
William Henry Smith Memorial Library  
Indiana Historical Society  
450 West Ohio Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 10 manuscript boxes, 4 color photograph folders, 4 photograph folders

COLLECTION DATES: 1974–2004, 2016

PROVENANCE: Paula Parker-Sawyers

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2008.0322

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Born October 5, 1951 Paula Michelle Parker-Sawyers (Means) has worked in philanthropy and civics leadership in Indianapolis for over forty years. She obtained a B.A. in Political Science from Indiana University in 1980 and an M.P.A. in Non-Profit Management from Indiana University-Indianapolis in 2003. In 1982 she married James E. Sawyers with whom she remained married until his death in 2006. She has three children, one step-child, and multiple grandchildren. She married David A. Means in 2013 and took his surname.

In the 1970s and 1980s she worked in civics, first as secretary for Congressman Elwood H. Hillis from 1971–73 and then Congressman William H. Hudnut III from 1973–74. In 1976 she was elected to the city county council, beginning her civic career, where she served until 1983. In 1989 she was the first woman appointed as Deputy Mayor under Mayor William H. Hudnut III.

Her philanthropic career is extensive. She worked in leadership roles for philanthropic and public health organizations, and served on countless boards for the private and non-profit sector. In the 1990s Parker-Sawyers served as Director of the Associated Group (1991–93), Director of the Leadership Works program at the IU Center for Philanthropy (1993–98), Executive Director of Association of Black Foundation Executives (1997–99), and Director of Office of Neighborhood Resources at Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis (1999–2000). In the 2000s she served as Director of Friendly Access, a program of the Health and Hospital Corporation (2000–01), Associate Director of the Polis Center at IUPUI (2001–05), Executive Director of Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives (2005–08), and Director of Outreach and Programming for the National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy (2008–2013). In 2015 she was appointed to her current position as Missions Director for the Tabernacle Presbyterian Church. Board membership that Parker-Sawyers has served includes the Pacers Foundation, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Indiana Perinatal Network, United Way of Central Indiana, and Spirit and Place Festival, among others.

Sources:

Materials in the collection

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection comprises papers from Paula Parker-Sawyers philanthropic and civic career. The majority of the material is from the 1990s and 2000s and represents her work on multiple organizational boards.

### **Series 1: Paula Parker-Sawyers and James E. Sawyers, 1976–2016**

The first series contains Parker-Sawyers personal and biographical information, including a copy of her detailed resume, as of 2016. When acquired, the collection included a scrapbook of her late husband James E. Sawyer. The photographs and newspaper clippings contained within the scrapbook were removed and placed in folders for preservation. This series also includes photographs featuring Paula Parker-Sawyers, James E. Sawyers, William H. Hudnut III, Fred Madorin, and "Sugar" Poindexter.

### **Series 2: Speeches, Papers, Teaching Materials, and Conferences, 1993–2002**

Series 2 is made up of speeches, papers, teaching materials, correspondence, and ephemera relating to conferences where Parker-Sawyers presented. The bulk of the series contains teaching materials for IU Center on Philanthropy's Fund Raising School curriculum program, Leadership Works, which provided non-profit Board training.

### **Series 3: Organizations and Projects, 1986–2004**

The bulk of the collection is contained within series 3 and is made up of board meeting minutes, correspondence, and ephemera for private and non-profit organizations for which Parker-Sawyers worked. They are arranged alphabetically by name of organization.

### **Series 4: Resources, 1986–2001**

The final series contains resource material, newspaper clippings, and research papers related various organizations for which Parker-Sawyers may not have been involved. Topics include diversity, public healthcare, youth development, and philanthropy.

## **SERIES CONTENTS**

### **Series 1: Paula Parker-Sawyers and James E. Sawyers, 1976–2016**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Paula Parker-Sawyers resumes and biographical information, circa 1990s and 2016	Box 1, Folder 1
Paula Parker-Sawyers news clippings, 1993–99	Box 1, Folder 2
IUPUI Black Student Union, certificate of Paula Parker-Sawyers, 27 Feb. 2000	Box 1, Folder 3
Personal planner of Paula Parker-Sawyers, Dec. 1997–Jan. 1999	Box 1, Folder 4
List of incoming/outgoing calls for Paula Parker-Sawyers, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 5
Portrait of Paula Parker-Sawyers, circa 2001	Photographs: Folder 1
James E. Sawyers correspondence, 1981–1983	Box 1, Folder 6
James E. Sawyers certificates of recognition, 1976 and 1979	Box 1, Folder 7
James E. Sawyers clippings, 1976–1982	Box 1, Folder 8
James E. Sawyers group photos, some featuring William Hudnut III, Joseph Slash, and Sugar Poindexter, 1976–1982	Photographs: Folder 2
Fred Madorin, Indiana Department of Transportation Director, circa 1970s	Photographs: Folder 3
James E. Sawyers photos, one featuring Fred Madorin, 1978, n.d.	Color Photographs: Folder 1
Friends and family photographs, circa 1990–2000	Color Photographs: Folder 2

### **Series 2: Speeches, Papers, Teaching Materials, and Conferences, 1993–2002**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Paula Parker-Sawyers speeches, 1997, n.d.	Box 1, Folder 9

"History of Philanthropy in the Western World: The Philanthropic Tradition Rooted in the Family," paper by Paula Parker-Sawyers, 13 Dec. 1993	Box 1, Folder 10
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, "R.L. Peyton presentation," circa 1993–98	Box 1, Folder 11
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, circa 1993–98 (1 of 4)	Box 1, Folder 12
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, circa 1993–98 (2 of 4)	Box 1, Folder 13
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, circa 1993–98 (3 of 4)	Box 1, Folder 14
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, circa 1993–98 (4 of 4)	Box 1, Folder 15
Leadership Works, IU Center on Philanthropy, teaching materials, 15 June 1994	Box 1, Folder 16
McDonald's Black History Makers of Tomorrow leadership conference, Indianapolis, Ind., 8 Feb. 1997	Box 2, Folder 1
Leadership in Action, Board Development Workshop at Institute of Technical Assistance Alliance for Parent Centers, Indianapolis, Ind., 15 Aug. 1998	Box 2, Folder 2
Council on Foundations, Family Foundations conference, Dallas, Tex., Feb. 1999	Box 2, Folder 3
Indy Parks Advisory Council training, 10 and 17 Apr. 1999	Box 2, Folder 4
United Way Nonprofit Training Center: "Volunteerism, Local and National Trends & Implications" workshop, Indianapolis, Ind., 8 Apr. 1999	Box 2, Folder 5
Kellogg International Leadership Program, Battle Creek, Mich., 21 June 1999	Box 2, Folder 6
Hoosier Heritage Night, Indianapolis, Ind., 22 June 1999	Box 2, Folder 7

F.T. McWhirter, Walter S. Blackburn, Sister Lucille Marie Beauchamp, Marilyn Glick, Malcolm Applegate, Gerald Bepko, and Paula Parker-Sawyers at Hoosier Heritage Night, Indianapolis, Ind., 22 June 1999	Color Photographs: Folder 3
Alliance Institute: Leadership in Action, San Diego, Calif., 19–21 Aug. 1999	Box 2, Folder 8
Faith Leadership Series, Indianapolis, Ind., 1999–2001	Box 2, Folder 9
Executive Leadership Institute, Indianapolis, Ind., 18–20 Jan. 2001	Box 2, Folder 10
Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative Institute, Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 2001	Box 2, Folder 11
Madame Walker Spirit Awards, Indianapolis, Ind., 2 Mar. 2002	Box 2, Folder 12

### **Series 3: Organizations and Projects, 1986–2004**

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
America's Promise, 1998	Box 2, Folder 13
Association of Black Foundation Executives, 1997–98	Box 2, Folder 14
Association of Black Foundation Executives, 1999	Box 2, Folder 15
Big Sisters Take Our Daughters to Work Mentor Awards, 1997	Box 2, Folder 16
Community Outreach Partnership Centers, 2000	Box 2, Folder 17
Finding Common Ground: A Race and Ethnic Relations Agenda for Indianapolis, 2001	Box 3, Folder 1
Future Farmers of America, 2001	Box 3, Folder 2
Indiana Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, 2000–01	Box 3, Folder 3
Indiana Nonprofit Sector Project, 2001	Box 3, Folder 4
Indiana Perinatal Network, State Advisory Board meeting, 8 Oct. 1997	Box 3, Folder 5

Indiana Perinatal Network, State Advisory Board meeting, 11 Mar. 1998	Box 3, Folder 6
Indiana Perinatal Network, subcommittee co-chair meeting, 10 June 1998	Box 3, Folder 7
Indiana Perinatal Network, State Advisory Board meeting, 6 Oct. 1998	Box 3, Folder 8
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 19 Oct. 1998	Box 3, Folder 9
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 11 Feb. 1999	Box 3, Folder 10
Indiana Perinatal Network, Advisory Board meeting, 10 Mar. 1999	Box 3, Folder 11
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 29 Sept. 1999	Box 3, Folder 12
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 13 Oct. 1999	Box 3, Folder 13
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 15 Mar. 2000	Box 3, Folder 14
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 4 Oct. 2000	Box 3, Folder 15
Indiana Perinatal Network, State Advisory Board meetings, 10 Jan. and 9 May 2001	Box 3, Folder 16
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 23 Mar. 2001	Box 3, Folder 17
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 8 Jan. 2002	Box 3, Folder 18
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 4 Mar. and 26 Aug. 2002	Box 3, Folder 19



Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 25 Nov. 2002	Box 3, Folder 20
Indiana Perinatal Network, Board of Directors meeting, 13 May 2003	Box 3, Folder 21
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Baby First...Right From the Start," 1998–2001	Box 4, Folder 1
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Friendly Access," 1999–2000	Box 4, Folder 2
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Friendly Access," customized program with Disney Institute, 2000	Box 4, Folder 3
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Indiana Access," 2003	Box 4, Folder 4
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Indiana Access," Founding Partners meeting, 1 Mar. and 10 June 2003	Box 4, Folder 5
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Indiana Access," Founding Partners meeting, 9 Sept. 2003	Box 4, Folder 6
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Indiana Access," Founding Partners meeting, 9 Mar. and 8 June 2004	Box 4, Folder 7
Indiana Perinatal Network, "1998 Tri-County Perinatal Outcomes Report: Elkhart, Marshall, & St. Joseph Counties," Mar. 1999	Box 4, Folder 8
Indiana Perinatal Network, Women & Depression Conference, 21 Oct. 2002	Box 4, Folder 9
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Accountant's Reports and Financial Statements, Dec. 31, 1999," 2000–02	Box 4, Folder 10

Indiana Perinatal Network, "Accountant's Reports and Financial Statements, Dec. 31, 2000 and 1999," 2001–03	Box 4, Folder 11
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Accountant's Reports and Financial Statements, Dec. 31, 2001 and 2000," 2002–03	Box 4, Folder 12
Indiana Perinatal Network, financial statements, 31 Mar. 2002 and 30 June 2002	Box 4, Folder 13
Indiana Perinatal Network, "Perinatal Perspectives," newsletters, 1998–2001	Box 4, Folder 14
Indiana Perinatal Network, employee manual and handbook, 1999–2002	Box 5, Folder 1
Indiana Perinatal Network, correspondence, 1997–2001	Box 5, Folder 2
Indiana Perinatal Network, internal and external informational material of organization, 1996–2001	Box 5, Folder 3
Indiana Perinatal Network, outside organizations ephemera, circa 1992–2001	Box 5, Folder 4
Indiana Perinatal Network, research resources, 1986–1998	Box 5, Folder 5
Indiana Perinatal Network, research resources, 1999–2001	Box 5, Folder 6
Indiana Repertory Theater, Board of Directors meeting, 1997 and 2000	Box 5, Folder 7
Indiana Repertory Theater, Board of Directors meeting, 2001–03	Box 5, Folder 8

Indiana Repertory Theater, managing director search, 2000	Box 5, Folder 9
Indiana Repertory Theater, "2000–2005 Strategic Plan" and "2001 Public Relations Plan," 2000–01	Box 5, Folder 10
IUPUI, Center on Philanthropy, correspondence, 1997–98	Box 6, Folder 1
IUPUI, Center on Philanthropy, Fundraising School, 1998–2001	Box 6, Folder 2
IUPUI, Center on Philanthropy, Fundraising School, 2002–03	Box 6, Folder 3
IUPUI, Center on Philanthropy, Fundraising School, evaluation forms, 28 Jan.–1 Feb. 2001	Box 6, Folder 4
IUPUI, Center on Philanthropy, publications and resources, 2001	Box 6, Folder 5
IUPUI, diversity at, 2001–02	Box 6, Folder 6
IUPUI, Jane Addams–Andrew Carnegie Fellows, 1997–2003	Box 6, Folder 7
IUPUI, Office of Neighborhood Resources, 1998–99	Box 6, Folder 8
Indiana Youth Institute, 2000	Box 6, Folder 9
Indianapolis Campaign for Healthy Babies, "Working Plan," 1989–91	Box 6, Folder 10
Indianapolis Campaign for Healthy Babies, correspondence, 1992–94	Box 6, Folder 11

Indianapolis Campaign for Healthy Babies, notes and resources, circa 1991–94	Box 6, Folder 12
Indianapolis Campaign for Healthy Babies, nurse with infant with Mayor William Hudnut III and Senator Glenn Howard, circa 1989–1991	Color Photographs: Folder 4
Indianapolis Healthy Babies Consortium, 1990	Box 6, Folder 13
Indianapolis Healthy Babies Consortium, 1994	Box 7, Folder 1
Indianapolis Healthy Babies Consortium, 1995–99	Box 7, Folder 2
Indianapolis Private Industry Council, Workforce Investment Board and Youth Council, 2000-01	Box 7, Folder 3
International Republican Institute, 1994–97	Box 7, Folder 4
Jewish Community Relations Council, trip to Israel, 1994–96	Box 7, Folder 5
Lilly Endowment, Indiana Camp Ministries Enhancement Program, 2000	Box 7, Folder 6
Mid-North Church Council, 2001–02	Box 7, Folder 7
National Coalition of 100 Black Women, membership list, 1997	Box 7, Folder 8
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors resources, 1997–98	Box 7, Folder 9
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 21 Feb. 2000	Box 7, Folder 10

Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 21 Aug. 2000	Box 7, Folder 11
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 20 Feb. 2001	Box 7, Folder 12
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors retreat, 23 May 2001	Box 7, Folder 13
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 20 Aug. 2001	Box 7, Folder 14
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 13 Nov. 2001	Box 7, Folder 15
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 22 May, 2002	Box 8, Folder 1
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 26 Feb. 2002	Box 8, Folder 2
Pacers Foundation, Board of Directors meeting, 22 Aug. 2002	Box 8, Folder 3
Pacers Foundation, correspondence, 1998–2001	Box 8, Folder 4
Pacers Foundation, "Financial Statements and Independent Auditors' Report, June 30, 2000 and 1999," 2000	Box 8, Folder 5
Pacers Foundation, ephemera, circa 2000–01	Box 8, Folder 6
Southern African Regional Internship Program, 1997–99	Box 8, Folder 7

Spirit II, correspondence and meeting minutes, 1990–91	Box 8, Folder 8
Spirit II, "Strategic Plan for Indianapolis Residents: Investing in Tomorrow," 1991	Box 8, Folder 9
Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Series, 1999–2002	Box 8, Folder 10
Teen Parent Self Sufficiency Project, 1990–91	Box 8, Folder 11
Teen Parent Self Sufficiency Project, May–Aug. 1992	Box 8, Folder 12
Teen Parent Self Sufficiency Project, Sept.–Nov. 1992	Box 9, Folder 1
Teen Parent Self Sufficiency Project, 1994, n.d.	Box 9, Folder 2
Teen Parent Self Sufficiency Project, proposal, 1990–92	Box 9, Folder 3
United Way of Central Indiana, 1991–2001	Box 9, Folder 4
United Way of America, 1998 Annual Report, 1999	Box 9, Folder 5
United Way of Central Indiana, "The Community Assessment Executive Summary," Aug. 1998	Box 9, Folder 6
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 1 Dec. 1999	Box 9, Folder 7
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 5 Apr. 2000	Box 9, Folder 8
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 7 June 2000	Box 9, Folder 9

United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 12 July 2000	Box 9, Folder 10
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 6 Sept. 2000	Box 9, Folder 11
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 4 Oct. 2000	Box 9, Folder 12
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council meeting, 10 Jan. 2001	Box 9, Folder 13
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council, 1999	Box 9, Folder 14
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council, Mar.–Apr. 2000	Box 9, Folder 15
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council, May–June 2000	Box 9, Folder 16
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council, July–Dec. 2000	Box 10, Folder 1
United Way of Central Indiana, Children and Youth Impact Council, 2001	Box 10, Folder 2
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee, correspondence, 1999–2001	Box 10, Folder 3
United Way of Central Indiana, "Diversity 2000: A Tool Kit to Focus Actions, Target Results," 2000	Box 10, Folder 4
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting 14 Sept. 1999	Box 10, Folder 5

United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting 17 Dec. 1999	Box 10, Folder 6
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting 26 Sept. 2000	Box 10, Folder 7
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting, 12 Dec. 2000	Box 10, Folder 8
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting, 18 July 2001	Box 10, Folder 9
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting, 3 Oct. 2001	Box 10, Folder 10
United Way of Central Indiana, National Diversity Committee meeting, 10 July 2002	Box 10, Folder 11

#### **Series 4: Resources**

##### CONTENTS

Diversity Resources, 1986–97, n.d.

Michael D. Woodard photographs, circa 1990s

Diversity in Healthcare resources, 2000–01, n.d.

Fiscal Policy Studies Institute, Maryland, 1997

Philanthropy articles and clippings, 1997–2000, n.d.

Unigov maps, Marion County, Indiana, n.d.

Youth development resources, 1999, n.d.

"Indianapolis Cultural Development Initiative:  
Building Participation Through Cultural Tourism,"  
June 2001

##### CONTAINER

Box 10 , Folder 12

Photographs: Folder 4

Box 10, Folder 13

Box 10, Folder 14

Box 10, Folder 15

Box 10, Folder 16

Box 10, Folder 17

Box 10, Folder 18