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**PRESS RELEASE**

**CONTACTS:** Jessica Fraser, Research and Policy Analyst, 317-638-4232 or 260-438-3659  
[jfraser@incap.org](mailto:jfraser@incap.org)

Lisa Travis, Program Manager, 317-638-4232 or 502-608-5347 [ltravis@incap.org](mailto:ltravis@incap.org)

### **Indiana Institute for Working Families announces Funding from the Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF Affiliate**

**Indianapolis, IN**— The Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of Indiana Community Action Association, announced today it has been granted \$12,000 from The Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF affiliate to create a 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Self-Sufficiency Calculator.

This funding announcement comes after the release of the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Sufficiency Standard for Indiana (Standard)* report in the fall of 2009, which was funded by the Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation, Inc. and The Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF Affiliate. The report contains an hourly, monthly, and annual self-sufficient wage for 70 family types in all of Indiana's 92 counties. Indiana is one of 37 states and the District of Columbia that has developed a Self-Sufficiency Standard.

“The online Self-Sufficiency Calculator is an innovative tool that allows an online user to calculate the amount of income their family needs to earn in order to meet their basic needs without public or private subsidies,” said Lisa Travis, Program Manager for Indiana Community Action Association. The last Self-Sufficiency Calculator for Indiana was developed after the release of the *2005 Self-Sufficiency Standard for Indiana* and uses 2005 data. “This grant from CICF will allow us to update the calculator to 2009 data and expand its functions to include jobs that pay self-sufficient wages and the education and training required to obtain those jobs,” said Travis.

“Self-Sufficiency Standards is a valuable tool that is used in a variety of ways across the country, from counseling job seekers and students, to assessing public policies, and targeting resources,” said Travis. “Making this expanded calculator and information available online will only enhance the opportunities for job seekers, working Hoosiers and policymakers to learn about self-sufficient wages and what jobs pay those wages in Indiana.”

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#### *Indiana Institute for Working Families*

The Indiana Institute for Working Families (Institute) is a program of the Indiana Community Action Association, Inc. (IN-CAA). The Institute was founded in 2004. The goal of the Institute is to help Hoosier families achieve and maintain economic self-sufficiency. The Institute is the only statewide program in Indiana that combines research and policy analysis on federal and

state legislation, public policies and programs impacting low-income working families with education and outreach. The Institute achieves its work by focusing its activities in the following areas: Public Policy; Research and Analysis; Education and Outreach; and National, Statewide, and Community Partnerships.

*Indiana Community Action Association (IN-CAA)*

The Indiana Community Action Association, Inc. (IN-CAA) is a statewide not-for-profit membership corporation, incorporated in the State of Indiana in 1970. IN-CAA's members or Network is comprised of Indiana's 24 Community Action Agencies (CAAs), which serve all of Indiana's 92 counties. IN-CAA envisions a state with limited or no poverty, where its residents have decent, safe, and sanitary living conditions, and where resources are available to help low income individuals attain self sufficiency.

IN-CAA serves as an advocate and facilitator of policy, planning and programs to create solutions and share responsibility as leaders in the war against poverty. Therefore, it is IN-CAA's mission is to help the state's Community Action Agencies address the conditions of poverty through: training and technical assistance; developing models for service delivery; and providing resources to help increase network capacity. For more information about IN-CAA, please visit IN-CAA's web site at [www.incap.org](http://www.incap.org).