# INDIANA INSTITUTE FOR WORKING FAMILIES



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## Indiana Institute for Working Families announces Funding from Duke Energy Foundation

Indianapolis, IN— The Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of Indiana Community Action Association, announced today it has been granted \$20,000 from the Duke Energy Foundation. The Indiana Institute for Working Families (Institute) will use the funding to develop policy briefs to promote economic self-sufficiency among Indiana's low-income workers.

"This contribution from the Duke Energy Foundation will strengthen our outreach efforts and allow us to provide the most up-to-date and accurate information about federal and state programs that are available to assist working Hoosier families," said Lisa Travis, Program Manager with Indiana Community Action Association.

There are several federal programs and tax credits designed to assist families in achieving self-sufficiency. In time of recession, such as now, these programs provide a vital safety net to families who are experiencing unemployment or lowered wages. However, many families are unaware of the benefits that are available to them or have trouble accessing program benefits due to policy barriers.

"As the recession continues to wear on and Hoosier families continue to struggle, the need to share data and information with policymakers, stakeholders, and community organizations becomes even more important," said Travis. "The support from the Duke Energy Foundation will allow us to meet this need."

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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. For more information about the Institute, please visit <a href="http://www.incap.org/iiwf.html">http://www.incap.org/iiwf.html</a>.

## 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.