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PRESS RELEASE

CONTACTS: Jessica Fraser, Research and Policy Analyst, 317-638-4232 or 260-438-3659,
jfraser@incap.org

Lisa Travis, Program Manager,, 502-608-5347, ltravis@incap.org

Indiana Institute for Working Families Launches a New Version of the Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator

Indianapolis, IN — The Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of Indiana Community Action Association, released a new version of the Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator today, based on the 4th edition of the *Sufficiency Standard for Indiana (Standard)* report.

The Indiana Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator (the Self-Sufficiency Calculator) is an online tool that allows individuals to access the data from *The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Indiana 2009* report, through a user-friendly interface. An online user can calculate the hourly, monthly, and annual self-sufficient wage required for a family to meet their basic needs without public or private subsidies for 70 family types in all of Indiana's 92 counties. This information is valuable for financial literacy and career counseling.

The Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF Affiliate, funded the 2009 Calculator, and has also funded an expansion of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator's features, to include jobs that pay self-sufficient wages and the education and training required to obtain those jobs. The Institute plans to release this second phase of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator in 2011. The previous version of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator for Indiana was developed after the release of the *2005 Self-Sufficiency Standard for Indiana* and used 2005 data.

"The Self-Sufficiency Standard 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 Lisa Travis, Program Manager at the Indiana Community Action Association.

You can access the Calculator by visiting: www.indianaselfsufficiencystandard.org.

You can access the report by visiting:
<http://www.incap.org/documents/FINAL%202009%20Indiana%20SSS%20Report%2010-26-09.pdf>.

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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 and 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 organized education and outreach. The goal of the Institute is to promote data-driven research and public policy that result in opportunities for Hoosier families to achieve and maintain economic self-sufficiency. The Institute fulfills its mission by focusing its work 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), a statewide not-for-profit membership corporation, was incorporated in the State of Indiana in 1970. IN-CAA's 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 CAAs 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.