

I N D I A N A COMMUNITY ACTION POVERTY INSTITUTE Research and Public Policy

For Immediate Release Contact: Ashley Phillips, Community Needs Analyst, Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute | 404-783-4564 | <u>aphillips@incap.org</u>

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Indianapolis, IN – In keeping with Community Action's rich history of empowering individuals in poverty, the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute is excited to announce receipt of a generous contract from Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA) to engage in a nine month-long study to better understand the challenges facing Hoosiers who must leave the workforce due to a disabling condition. More specifically, the project aims to shed light on the financial supports needed by those experiencing a disability, and the complexities that exist for these individuals in applying for or receiving financial support.

"None of us know when we may experience a life-altering event that could render us disabled. Therefore, it is important for everyone to engage in understanding this process and making sure it works for individuals now and well into the future. The Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute is about making sizeable, long-term change for a better future and we hope that these findings will guide that process of change," said Ashley Phillips, Community Needs Analyst at the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute.

"We are excited to partner with Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute to fund this project," said Jake Sipe, Executive Director, IHCDA. "It aligns with our agency's vision of an Indiana with a sustainable quality of life. We seek to make sure every community and individual in our state can achieve this and we especially want to ensure this for our vulnerable populations."

This initiative aims to educate policy makers, government agencies, and the general public about the difficulties that exist currently in the process of leaving the workforce due to a disability, and the daily needs of these individuals. There will be publications and workshops to disseminate the project's findings. Individuals interested in learning more or participating in the workshops should sign up for the Institute's email list.

About the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute

The Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute engages in research and promotes public policies to help Hoosier families achieve and maintain financial well-being. We believe that when Hoosiers are financially stable, they can achieve their full potential and better contribute to their communities. The Institute is a program of the Indiana Community Action Association.