



PIKE TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Tuesday, November 11, 2009

**INDY RESOURCE CONNECT SERIES KICKED-OFF THIS WEEK**

***First of six events offered assistance to more than 100 families  
and individuals in Pike Township***

INDIANAPOLIS – The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention launched a new initiative, Indy Resource Connect (IRC) Tuesday, which provided families and individuals in a financial crisis with the resources and information they need to *avoid* becoming homeless.

IRC, modeled after Indy Homeless Connect, will be a series of events taking place six times throughout the Marion County Townships. The first IRC, on November 10, took place in partnership with the Pike Township Trustee Office at Lafayette Square Mall from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. Kindercare provided child care for the participants.

The first event served nearly 100 families and individuals with acute medical care, credit and foreclosure counseling, financial education, mental health counseling, legal advice, employment resources, and housing assistance – all under one roof.

Marion County Health Department Director, Dr. Virginia Caine will serve as honorary chair of the IRC series. Yesterday, Matt Gutwein, CEO of Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County led a pep rally for the more than 200 professional and community volunteers representing 32 agencies and service providers.

“This was an incredible day where people got connected to services they did not know were available or had trouble accessing,” said Gutwein. The next five events in the IRC series will continue to serve more people in need.”

Virtually all of the participants received services or referrals that will provide them with assistance.

The Social Security Administration and the Veteran’s Administration both identified individuals who were eligible for and not receiving benefits, or who were eligible for increased benefits. At least one individual doubled his monthly Social Security income. In all, 47 people accessed 63 different services in the Benefits area. Employment counselors met with more than 50 people to provide job counseling services. The Office of the Indiana Attorney General reported that it found several thousand dollars of unclaimed property for participants during the event, including finding more than \$1,000 for one participant. Many participants met with attorneys and financial counselors to address issues with eviction, credit and financial issues, and possible mortgage foreclosure, including several participants who received assistance with mortgage foreclosure work out plans.

Additional IRC events will take place in other townships throughout Marion County. The dates and locations of upcoming events will be announced in the near future.

Residents, businesses, service providers or charitable organizations interested in volunteering or making donations to Indy Resource Connect should visit [www.chipindy.org](http://www.chipindy.org) or call (317) 472-7640.

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**For more information, contact:**

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