



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HOMELESS COALITION ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

INDIANAPOLIS - The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) is pleased to announce the appointment of its board of directors' executive committee. John Willey will serve as chair, Jose Salinas as vice-chair, Todd Sears as treasurer and Kevin Lennon as secretary. The executive committee was elected by 17 community leaders who represent a broad spectrum of interests on the board of directors and in the community.

**John Willey** joined WellPoint, Inc. in 1997 and currently serves as director of government relations with the primary responsibility of lobbying on Indiana State executive and regulatory issues. Prior to joining WellPoint, Inc., Willey spent over two years as executive director of the Indiana Republican Party. Prior to his work at the state party, he spent over two years at the Indiana House of Representatives' Republican Caucus, serving as a legislative assistant. Willey graduated from Ball State University with a degree in Political Science.

Willey has served on the board of directors of the Public Affairs Council in Washington D.C., the Indiana Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society and currently serves on the board of directors of the American Lung Association, Indiana Chapter. Willey was recently selected as a participant for the 33<sup>rd</sup> class of the Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Series and for 14 years, he has been a volunteer with Media Operations at the RCA Tennis Championships in Indianapolis and is himself an avid tennis player.

**Jose Salinas** presides over Marion County Superior Court 14, Criminal Division ("D" felony drug court), as well as oversees the Marion County Drug Treatment Court and Marion County Re-entry Court. Judge Salinas is active in the community and had maintained a private practice for nine years prior to taking the bench in January of 2007. He was the first Hispanic elected to the Judiciary in Marion County, Indianapolis, Indiana. Judge Salinas had worked as a public defender for the Plainfield Town Court for 7 years. He was on the Federal Public Defender Panel and was a conflict attorney for the Marion County Defender Agency in Criminal Court 2 (major felony division) for 6 years. While practicing law, Judge Salinas focused on representing the growing Central Indiana Hispanic Community while still serving the Indianapolis Community in the areas of family law, civil and criminal matter. He received his undergraduate degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas-Pan American and his law degree from Indiana University School of Law Indianapolis in 1997.

**Todd Sears** is the CFO of Herman & Kittle Properties, Inc. in Indianapolis and is currently a member of the senior management team. Sears was previously the executive vice president of the Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership (INHP) from 2000-2005 where he oversaw the single-family lending, multi-family lending and research departments. His work included

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completion of approximately \$25 million of mortgage sales/securitizations, creation of two bank-financed loan pools (each over \$20 million) and reinstating research as a formal component of INHP's activities. Sears' career also includes working in state government at the Indiana Housing Finance Authority (IHFA, now known as the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority) and at the Indiana State Board of Tax Commissioners.

Sears received a Bachelor of Science in Finance from the Honors Program of the Business School at Indiana University and graduated with Distinction. In 2002, he received a Masters in Economics from Indiana University (at I.U.P.U.I.). In 2008, Sears earned the Chartered Financial Analyst designation from the CFA Institute and he is now the treasurer for the CFA Society of Indianapolis.

**Kevin Lennon** has served as the NCAA vice president of academic and membership affairs (formerly membership services) since December 1998, having served previously as a director of membership services for nine years. Lennon served as an assistant commissioner of the Southwest Athletic Conference and legislative assistant at the NCAA national office. In his current position as vice president of academic and membership affairs, the largest staff in the NCAA national office, Lennon oversees a staff dedicated to helping the NCAA membership, public and media with all NCAA academic and rules compliance matters.

A 1984 graduate of Harvard University, Lennon earned his masters degree in sports administration from Ohio University and is a candidate for EdD in higher education at the University of Kansas.

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*CHIP is the lead entity in implementing Indianapolis' Blueprint to End Homelessness and serves as the umbrella agency for those agencies working together to combat homelessness. CHIP's goal is to establish a well-coordinated and effective continuum of assistance and housing options that help vulnerable people avoid or escape homelessness*