



**For Immediate Release**  
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***Annual Memorial Service to Honor Homeless  
Persons' Who Have Died  
Honoring and reflecting on 36 lives lost***

INDIANAPOLIS - The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) will hold its annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Service to honor 36 local homeless neighbors who have died this year. The community is invited to join in this service at 11:00 a.m. tomorrow, December 21 at Christ Church Cathedral, 125 Monument Circle, to honor and remember those lives lost this year.

Two formerly homeless neighbors, Gary Rhodes and Darryl Boyd, will share their individual struggles with homelessness and the inspiring events that helped them regain their lives and homes.

Both Rhodes and Boyd are currently housed due in large part to the partnering efforts of the following agencies: Homeless Initiative Program, HVAF, Inc. and Salvation Army Harbor Light Rehabilitation Center.

"This service honors the neighbors we lost who might otherwise have been forgotten. Their lives are a reminder to continue in our commitment to providing safe, affordable housing to our most vulnerable neighbors," said Timothy C. Joyce, CHIP Executive Director. "Gary and Darryl are living proof of how a supportive community can change and save lives."

Each year, the service is held on or near the first day of winter to bring attention to the plight of our homeless neighbors. A memorial book, inscribed with the names of those who have died from 1996 - 2010 will be on display at the church.

Following the service, CHIP will host a complimentary luncheon for the homeless and formerly homeless neighbors in attendance as well as the service providers and volunteers who work with those experiencing homelessness on a daily basis.

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*The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention is a nonprofit agency created in 1996 to advocate for homeless and near-homeless people in Indianapolis and to help organizations that serve them work together more effectively. CHIP led the Blueprint to End Homelessness planning effort and now serves as the lead agency to mobilize the community to work together to implement its recommendations.*