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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Pyle, Smith, Reed and White Present Grant to Indiana  
County Community Action Program**

*Legislators secure funding to assist County Food Bank*

**INDIANA** – Legislators representing Indiana County joined forces today to present a grant to the Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP) to help the food bank upgrade its refrigeration units.

Reps. Jeff Pyle (R-Armstrong/Indiana), Sam Smith (R-Jefferson/Indiana), Dave Reed (R-Indiana); and Sen. Don White (R-41) presented a grant of \$38,000 to Sandi Dill, executive director of ICCAP, at a press conference at the food bank in Indiana.

“This funding will allow ICCAP to maintain its new refrigeration units for the food bank’s perishable food supply,” Pyle said. “This funding will allow ICAAP to continue its outstanding tradition of selfless service in providing nutritious meals for those in need. The Indiana County legislators have always worked together very well and this was no exception. I’m happy to have helped.”

For nearly 42 years, ICCAP has served the needs of citizens of Indiana County by providing low-income residents a wide range of services. With a staff of 40, ICCAP provides many services, including the food bank, to more than 11,300 citizens each year.

Smith noted that this equipment is vital to maintaining the quality of the food, thus the health of the clients. "If you are going to run a food bank, you need to run it right, and good refrigeration units are critical to storing and delivering safe food."

ICCAP is Indiana County’s only designated emergency food provider. This is a county-wide food assistance program that uses nearly 245 community partner volunteers in the

distribution of food assistance to more than 1,445 households, or more than 2,976 individuals each month.

“We’re blessed in Indiana County to have an organization like ICCAP to help those in need,” Reed said. “I’m proud to be able to help secure the funds necessary to allow this organization to continue to provide valuable services to our community.”

For more than 24 years, ICCAP has been designated as the lead agency for food assistance by the Indiana County Board of Commissioners. The food assistance programs operated by ICCAP include the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), the Pennsylvania State Food Assistance Program (SFPP), and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), the Food Stamp Outreach Program, donations and community food drives.

The ICCAP Food Bank distributes over half a million pounds of food annually.

“The Indiana County Community Action Program provides an invaluable service to our community. This grant will greatly enhance their ability to extend their service area further into the rural parts of the county and provide help to more needy families,” White said. “I would especially like to commend Sandi Dill for her diligence and her efforts to improve the quality of life of our neighbors through her advocacy of projects such as this.”

ICCAP is well known throughout the county for its strong community and volunteer support. The Food Bank currently has 19 distribution centers throughout the county to deliver food to those in need.

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