

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **New Grant from Lumina Foundation to Identify Financial Aid Solutions for Adult Workers Looking to Increase Skills**

**Indianapolis, IN** – The Indiana Institute for Working Families (Institute), a program of the Indiana Community Action Association (IN-CAA), is pleased to announce that it has received a \$10,000 grant from Lumina Foundation for Education. This grant will support the completion of a study to provide policy recommendations that will improve Indiana's financial aid programs to better meet the needs of working adult students.

State financial aid programs historically have been designed for younger learners transitioning from high school to college. Aid programs often do not address the unique needs of working adults who are balancing school with job and family responsibilities. The study identifies these barriers and offers 18 policy solutions to better align state funding with its workforce and economic development goals.

Lumina Foundation for Education is the nation's largest private foundation committed to enrolling and graduating more students from college — especially low-income students, students of color, first-generation students and adult learners. Our goal is to increase the percentage of Americans who hold high-quality degrees and credentials to 60 percent by 2025. Lumina pursues this goal in three ways: by identifying and supporting successful practices, through public policy advocacy, and by using our communications and convening power to build public will for change.

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### *Indiana Community Action Association (IN-CAA)*

The Indiana Community Action Association, Inc. (IN-CAA) is a statewide not-for-profit membership corporation, incorporated in the State of Indiana in 1970. IN-CAA's members or Network is comprised of Indiana's 24 Community Action Agencies (CAAs), which serve all of Indiana's 92 counties. IN-CAA envisions a state with limited or no poverty, where its residents have decent, safe, and sanitary living conditions, and where resources are available to help low income individuals attain self sufficiency.

The Indiana Institute for Working Families, a program of the Indiana Community Action Association (IN-CAA), was founded in 2004 with generous support from The Joyce Foundation. The goal of the Institute is to help Hoosier families achieve and maintain economic self-sufficiency. The Institute is the only statewide program in Indiana that combines research and policy analysis on federal and state legislation, public policies and programs impacting low-income working families with education and outreach. The Institute achieves its work by focusing its activities in the following areas: public policy research and analysis; advocacy, education, and information; and national, statewide, and community partnerships.