

NEWS RELEASE

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CANI SEEKING FAMILIES IN NOBLE COUNTY FOR EARLY HEAD START

CANI (Community Action of Northeast Indiana) has received funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide Early Head Start services to families in Allen, Noble and Whitley counties. At the moment CANI is concentrating its recruitment efforts on Noble and Whitley counties.

The Early Head Start program was established in 1995 for children from birth to three years of age and pregnant women in recognition of scientific evidence that a child's earliest years are extremely important to healthy development and future educational success.

Early Head Start is for low-income expectant mothers and their infant children up to age three. Home visitors, trained in early childhood education, help families learn how to be their child's first and most important teacher and work on the needs of the whole family. For pregnant women, the focus is on maintaining a healthy pregnancy.

Locally, the funding allows for CANI to serve 72 people, which can include pregnant women and children infants to age three. The program currently has capacity to serve 12 people in Noble County.

The program is slated to begin serving families June 1.

The funding is part of \$2.1 million made available under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009.

CANI helps communities, families, and individuals remove the causes and conditions of poverty. For more information about CANI and the services provided, visit the Web site www.canihelp.org.