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Indianhead Community Action Agency Honored *Governor's Award for Excellence in Community Action is presented*

(MADISON) – A business development and entrepreneur program from Ladysmith was honored today during an event commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP).

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary Eloise Anderson, on behalf of Governor Scott Walker, presented the Governor's Award for Excellence in Community Action for 2014 to Indianhead Community Action Agency for its Business Development Program. It's the 17th annual award, presented to recognize outstanding innovation and performance by a Community Action Agency. The ceremony took place during the WISCAP annual meeting, held at Monona Terrace in Madison.

"This year marks the 50th anniversary of community action as a national program to fight the war on poverty," said Governor Scott Walker. "Again this year, an outstanding program is being awarded, with exemplary qualities of providing community impact and promoting self-sufficiency for low-income households."

The award is selected by a joint committee of staff from DCF and the Governor's Office, applying six criteria: innovation in programming; use of collaborative partnerships; leveraging resources; cost effectiveness; community impact; and, promoting self-sufficiency for low-income households.

"Indianhead Community Action Agency's Business Development Program has created three for-profit social enterprise businesses of its own and is making new business start-ups possible in a rural area that struggles with high unemployment," said DCF Secretary Eloise Anderson. "Those types of efforts are important for the growth of communities."

The Indianhead Community Action Agency was founded in 1966 and serves six counties in northwestern Wisconsin. Since 2010, its Business Development Program has served 75 clients, underwritten over \$350,000 in loans, helped launch 20 new businesses and created 64 new jobs. Of the 20 new businesses, seven are owned by women and four are owned by people with disabilities.

To learn more about community action programs in Wisconsin, visit the WISCAP website at www.wiscap.org.

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