



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT:** Claire Belby, 317/956-5232, 317/523-7145 (cell)

### **REALTOR® Foundation Awareness Week to Support Local Homeless Providers**

*Direct volunteerism and philanthropy opportunities take center stage during fifth annual service event*

Indianapolis – Did you know that 16 percent of the 1,567 individuals experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis every night are actually children under the age of 18? In the midst of a challenging market, REALTORS® across 10 central Indiana counties will once again mobilize to lend support to the men, women and children who wage a daily battle against homelessness in the region.

From Sept. 12-16, 2011, the fifth-annual REALTOR® Foundation Awareness Week will provide volunteer and fundraising opportunities which allow REALTORS® to give back to the communities in which they live and work. The weeklong event is an annual service opportunity orchestrated through the REALTOR® Foundation – the philanthropic arm of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of REALTORS® (MIBOR) established in 1984.

Through its concentration on transitional and permanent supportive housing — which the Foundation defines as the step between emergency shelter and homeownership — the organization partners with existing organizations which have housing as part of their mission to address homelessness throughout central Indiana. In the past six years, the REALTOR® Foundation has provided more than \$600,000 to regional nonprofit organizations.

To complement its fundraising efforts, REALTOR® Foundation Awareness Week allows hands-on support of this important mission. The event centralizes service opportunities across central Indiana and connects nonprofits with REALTORS® who wish to donate their time to help. MIBOR members can register for individual volunteer opportunities throughout the week, including a cleanup day at St. Clair Place in conjunction with MIBOR's *Building a Living Legacy* Centennial Project.

“As REALTORS®, we know just how important homes are to central Indiana,” said Joyce Scotten, 2011 REALTOR® Foundation president. “Many nonprofits are facing challenges due to the economy, so it is rewarding to be able to provide help to those who need it in an area we know best.”

This year, REALTOR® Foundation Awareness Week will also reprise its popular Feed the Fight event. On Wednesday, Sept. 14, Flat12 Bierwerks will host the event which offers signature fare from local restaurants such as The Elbow Room, The Villa Inn Restaurant and Spa, Yat's, Kincaid's, Chicago's Pizza, Ivy Tech Culinary Arts and more. In addition, guests can tour Flat12 Bierwerks' new brewery throughout the evening. The event will take place from 5:30-8 p.m. and is open to the public.

To register for all Awareness Week activities, including volunteer opportunities, the *Building a Living Legacy* cleanup day and Feed the Fight, call Molly Hahn at 317-956-5255 or email [mollyhahn@mibor.com](mailto:mollyhahn@mibor.com). To learn more about Awareness Week, visit [www.realtorfoundation.org/awareness](http://www.realtorfoundation.org/awareness).

###

*This information has been provided by the REALTOR® Foundation and MIBOR. Established in 1984, the REALTOR® Foundation is the philanthropic arm of MIBOR, the professional association representing central Indiana's REALTORS® serving the needs of more than 6,500 members in Boone, Brown, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Montgomery, Morgan and Shelby counties.*