

Nonprofits serving local homeless honored during Realtor Foundation Awareness Week

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Once again this summer, Realtors across 10 counties will lend their support to the men and women who wage a daily battle against homelessness in central Indiana. The third-annual Realtor Foundation Awareness Week, held the week of June 8, 2009, will provide volunteer and fundraising opportunities through the Foundation – the philanthropic arm of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors (MIBOR).

Each year, the Realtor Foundation utilizes its grants program to support the vital work of organizations that serve people displaced because of domestic violence, natural disaster or those affected by economic hardships that have made them temporarily homeless. In the last five years, the Foundation has granted \$420,000 to homelessness service providers in Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion and Morgan counties.

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Realtor Foundation Awareness Week serves to celebrate this good work through fundraising and awareness events.

MIBOR members can also register for volunteer opportunities throughout the week, ranging from child care to gardening. Organizations participating in the service event include The Julian Center, Gennesaret Free Clinic, Mary Rigg Neighborhood Center, Christian Help, Inc. and Wellspring Center.

"It's rewarding to have hands-on opportunities to work with these service providers," explained Bonita Hurt, a Realtor who participated in last year's day of service and plans to donate her time again this year. "Just a few hours out of the week can make such a big difference. The organizations are so truly grateful for our help – it's very rewarding."

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