



ARRA REPORT BY THE  
INSPECTOR GENERAL AND STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

2009-10-0219

October 14, 2009

ARRA REVIEW OF ISDH TEFAP

*Indiana Office of Inspector General Staff Attorney Todd Shumaker and State Examiner Bruce A. Hartman of the Indiana State Board of Accounts report as follows:*

This report addresses an evaluation of The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)<sup>1</sup> administration by the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)<sup>2</sup>.

TEFAP is a federal program sponsored by the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) with the purpose of supplementing the diets of low income needy persons by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance. USDA is responsible for purchasing food items which it then delivers to state

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<sup>1</sup> IC 16-19-3-1 *et seq* establishes the authority of the Indiana State Department of Health to supervise the health and life of the citizens of the State of Indiana. These responsibilities include overseeing the use of federal funds to meet these ends.

<sup>2</sup> The Indiana State Department of Health is established in IC 16-19-1-1.

agencies to oversee the details of the administration and distribution of the food to local organizations.

On February 17, 2009, the United States Government enacted the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The ARRA intends to provide a stimulus to the United States economy by providing \$787 billion in program funding and tax credits.<sup>3</sup>

The purpose of this report is to document a preliminary ARRA compliance review of the ISDH TEFAP by the State Board of Accounts (SBOA) and the Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

## I

To date, ISDH has been provided \$486,571 in ARRA funding to be used to support more households in need of emergency food as well as to supplement current households seeking food at the food banks and pantries throughout Indiana. These funds are for use through June 30, 2010, and ISDH will presumably receive an additional \$486,571 for use through June 30, 2011.<sup>4</sup>

## II

The OIG's enabling statute provides that the OIG "is responsible for addressing fraud, waste, abuse and wrongdoing in agencies." IC 4-2-7-2(b).

The SBOA has similar duties, including the authority to develop and

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<sup>3</sup> See: <http://www.recovery.gov>.

<sup>4</sup> The commodities portion of TEFAP will be reviewed separately.

publish “accounting and uniform compliance guidelines manuals” (Manuals) to provide guidance to public entities, IC 5-11-1-24(a), to perform audits, IC 5-11-1-9, and to make written findings regarding violations of its Manuals or “any law.” IC 5-11-5-1(a).

Within these authorities, a preliminary review of this program was made. This review included, but was not limited to, reviewing the program objectives, meeting with the program staff, reviewing agency-completed spending plans, reviewing monthly update reports submitted to the Indiana Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and assessing the program’s risks.

From this preliminary review, we make the following findings and recommendations.

### III

#### A

#### Findings

The program controls outlined in the TEFAP spending plan approved by the OMB or other related documentation are adequate to meet the respective federal ARRA and State OMB guidelines and requirements.

#### B

#### Recommendation

Accordingly, we offer no recommendations at this time, but advise ISDH employees to continue to apprise themselves of ARRA requirements and

developments.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David O. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

David O. Thomas, Inspector General