



ARRA REPORT BY THE  
INSPECTOR GENERAL AND STATE BOARD OF ACCOUNTS

2009-12-0275

December 29, 2009

ARRA FSSA DDRS IL

*Indiana 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 Independent Living program (IL)<sup>1</sup> activities within the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services of the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (DDRS).<sup>2</sup>

The purpose of the IL program is to make sure that eligible veterans are able to live independently and participate in family and community life, increasing their potential to return to work.<sup>3</sup>

On February 17, 2009, the United States Government enacted the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act<sup>4</sup> (ARRA). The ARRA intends to

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<sup>1</sup> The Independent Living program is part of the Vocational Rehabilitation Services contained in 38 CFR 31.

<sup>2</sup> The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services is established pursuant to I.C. 12-9-1 *et seq.*

<sup>3</sup> See footnote 1, *supra*.

<sup>4</sup> American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115 (2009).

provide a stimulus to the United States economy by providing \$787 billion in program funding and tax credits.<sup>5</sup>

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

## I

To date, DDRS has been awarded a total of \$281,753 in ARRA funds to be obligated by September 30, 2011, and liquidated by December 31, 2011. These funds are to be used to establish one new independent living service provider in an area of the state currently unserved and to assist the Indiana Council on Independent Living with start up costs.

## 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 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 the IL program was

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<sup>5</sup> See: <http://www.recovery.gov>.

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 an assessment of the program's risks.

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

### III

We find from our initial review that the controls over the IL program ARRA funding are adequate to meet the respective federal ARRA and State OMB guidelines and requirements.

At a later date, we may perform additional procedures as deemed necessary to verify compliance requirements.

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

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2009.

APPROVED BY:



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David O. Thomas, Inspector General