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INDIANA BOROUGH ENCOURAGES COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO WORK TOGETHER TO MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS

“Together Indiana” outreach campaign launched to unify residents, businesses, and community as everyone works to limit the spread of COVID-19

Indiana, PA (Aug. 17, 2020) - As academics are set to resume at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and within the local school district, the Borough of Indiana is underscoring the importance of community members working together to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep residents safe and healthy.

Today, the Borough launched the “Together Indiana” outreach campaign. Together Indiana’s mission is to coordinate and amplify the community’s unified voice as we all work to stay safe amid COVID-19. The campaign brings together Indiana’s residents, the businesses, and students and faculty for information sharing and ideas to keep our community safe.

Community members can sign up to receive weekly updates via the TogetherIndiana.com website, where they can download graphics and signage to show their support and share the efforts they are making. Stakeholders can also follow the campaign and receive updates via social media at @TogetherIndiana on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

“This campaign is aimed at encouraging safe distancing practices among permanent and part-time residents of the Borough and ensuring that the full community takes steps necessary to protect public health,” said Peter Broad, Council President. “It’s important that there be one unifying message to connect community members. The ‘Together Indiana’ campaign brings all of us together as we take steps such as wearing our masks, washing our hands, practicing social distancing, and reminding people that if they are feeling sick, please stay home.”

The Borough’s initiative augments IUP’s excellent outreach efforts among students, faculty, and staff. Working together with local businesses, stakeholders and residents, the overarching goal of the “Together Indiana” campaign is to provide resources to support the community’s efforts to stay safe.

“The best options we have to maintain our safety and health is to take individual steps to stop the virus from spreading, collectively working together by #takethe14 day quarantine,” added Gerald Smith, Council Vice President. “We encourage residents and visitors to mask up when entering any public space, in the Borough and throughout the region. Your example will encourage others to follow suit.”

As a part of its COVID-19 response efforts, the Borough is also measuring COVID-19 infection levels at the local wastewater treatment facility. The treatment plant is one of many around the nation providing

data to measure the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Working with Biobot Analytics, a team of researchers from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard, the Borough is using the unique molecular biology laboratory techniques to identify traces of COVID-19 viral RNA in wastewater samples.

This analysis provides insights into the presence of infected individuals and the prevalence of the virus within the local community.

For information about IUP's plans for addressing issues surrounding the virus, [click here](#).

For information about the Pennsylvania Department of Health's guidance and for the latest statistics in Pennsylvania, click [here](#).

Indiana County has also provided numerous [educational resources and materials](#) to assist each of us as we continue to address this pandemic.

Also see the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as well as the [World Health Organization](#) for additional information.

To stay up to date with the "Together Indiana" campaign, visit [TogetherIndiana.com](#).

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Indiana Borough launched the "Together Indiana" outreach and education campaign to provide a unifying voice for community members as we work to combat the coronavirus. Working together, we will help to maintain our economy, continue to care for our citizens, respond to community needs and continue to efficiently provide services and resources to the residents and businesses we serve. For more information, please visit TogetherIndiana.com or follow us on social media at @TogetherIndiana. Joining the campaign is voluntary.