



Indiana Association *of*
Cities and Towns

125 W. Market Street, Suite 240
Indianapolis, IN 46204
www.citiesandtowns.org

PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Simmons
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(317) 294-8528 (m)
jsimmons@citiesandtowns.org

Monticello earns Community Achievement Award for Emergency Notification System

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) announced the City of Monticello has been named a **2014 IACT Community Achievement Award** winner in the fewer than 10,000 population category for its emergency notification system for persons with disabilities. The City will receive its award during the Annual Awards Luncheon presented by Umbaugh, Wednesday, Sept. 10, at the 2014 IACT Annual Conference & Exhibition in Fort Wayne.

Monticello's ADA Coordinator Cathy Gross was completing the City's Transition Plan when it came to light that there was not an emergency notification system for people in Monticello, particularly those with disabilities. This revelation brought together a diverse group of people and organizations dedicated to fixing the problem. The collaboration became the Emergency Notification Committee. The newly formed committee began working on a three phase plan to implement and notify people of the new Emergency Notification system. A grassroots effort then took off to help people with disabilities learn and sign-up for the program. The city received funding from the Indiana Department Homeland of Security for the notification system and the White County Commissioners will help fund the system in the future.

"I'm so proud that the IACT Community Achievement Award will shine a light on the diligent, caring employees and elected officials we have here in Monticello. Their hard work to ensure all of our citizens are safe during an emergency really says it all about the kind of community we have here," said Monticello Mayor Ken Houston.



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“The City of Monticello took the requirement of an ADA Transition Plan to the next level. Their hard-working team identified a critical void and worked hard to fill it. The whole city will benefit from their efforts,” said IACT Executive Director and CEO Matt Greller.

In its 38th year, the IACT Annual Awards program, presented by Umbaugh, recognizes communities and individuals in municipal government for excellence and outstanding achievement. A nine-member panel of qualified judges selected this year’s winners from a competitive field of nominees from around the state.

Media are welcome to attend the awards luncheon. Please notify Jennifer Simmons (jsimmons@citiesandtowns.org) at your earliest convenience to secure a media credential.

The Indiana Association of Cities and Towns (IACT) is a coalition of municipal officials who seek to improve the quality of life in Indiana through effective government, and is a member of the National League of Cities. Founded in 1891, IACT is one of the oldest state municipal organizations in the country, with 470 cities and towns as members. IACT advocates for municipalities as the official voice of municipal government in Indiana, and promotes good government through education, training and leadership.

Conference Facts:

2014 IACT Annual Conference and Exhibition

September 9-11

Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne

Attendance: 1,000 (pending final registration count)

Further information: www.citiesandtowns.org