

Improving Kids' Environment

3951 N. Meridian St., Suite 160
Indianapolis, IN 46208-4062
www.ikecoalition.org
Fax: 866-234-8505
Phone: 317-677-4760

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jodi Perras Chosen as IKE Executive Director

Former state and city official will work for children's environmental health

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 1, 2010 – Jodi Perras has been chosen to lead Improving Kids' Environment as the non-profit celebrates its 10th anniversary protecting children from lead poisoning, air pollution, raw sewage overflows and other environmental threats.

“We are fortunate to have found someone with Jodi's experience both as a government official and advocate working to protect Hoosier children from environmental health threats,” said IKE board President Dr. Indra Frank. “She has a well-deserved reputation for tackling environmental problems and working with all parties to find solutions.”

Ms. Perras has served as a deputy commissioner at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management and a deputy director in the Indianapolis Department of Public Works. As a small business owner, she also helped cities throughout the Midwest comply with requirements to reduce raw sewage overflows into rivers and streams.

She began her career as a reporter for the Associated Press in Indianapolis, where she covered the environment, health and politics. Ms. Perras has a bachelor's degree in journalism and political science from Butler University.

“IKE has always prided itself on providing practical, science-based solutions to environmental threats and advocating for common sense public policy solutions,” Ms. Perras said. “I look forward to working with IKE's board, volunteers, and partners to prevent lead poisoning, reduce pollution that can trigger asthma attacks and protect children from other serious environmental threats.”

Improving Kids' Environment is a non-profit, advocacy coalition that facilitates tangible and significant improvements to children's health through reductions in environmental threats. IKE helps children reach their full potential by working with citizens, non-profit organizations, governments, businesses, and others to:

- Identify environmental health threats to children;
- Ensure that parents and others who help children have effective access to information about these threats and the means to prevent them;
- Support the activities of those organizations striving to remove, reduce, and communicate these threats; and
- Promote practical means to remove or reduce recognized, serious threats that are not being addressed effectively.

Ms. Perras can be reached by calling 317-677-4760 or via email, jperras@ikecoalition.org.