



NEWS RELEASE

Kathy Funke, Director
News & Information Services
812/465-7005
FAX 812/465-1096
E-mail kfunke@usi.edu
<http://www.usi.edu/events.htm>

For immediate release
May 22, 2000

USI to hold third annual asthma camp **Camp Wheezer Eezer for children ages 5 to 12**

University of Southern Indiana will host the third annual asthma camp for area youths ages 5 - 12 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday - Friday, June 5 - 9. Camp Wheezer Eezer will be held on the USI campus.

Project director **Julie St. Clair**, instructor in nursing, said, "Statistics show a steady national increase in the past ten years in the number of asthma cases and the level of severity." St. Clair said that asthma has become a major national health issue with seven percent of young people ages 18 and under experiencing various degrees of asthma. After receiving a grant for this project from the Foundation for Community Health, St. Clair began working with other local health professionals to arrange this week of activities for children with asthma. The camp fills to capacity every year.

Co-director **Gina Schaar**, instructor in nursing, will participate throughout the program as camp nurse. She is prepared to manage any health care issues and administer emergency procedures should the need arise. Coordinators have scheduled many safe activities for participants as well as a daily education program to learn more about asthma and improve personal management. Camp counselors will be USI students majoring in respiratory therapy or nursing.

Campus activities will be held at or near the Grimes House and Westwood Lodge, located on the east end of USI campus. Registration is still open and cost is \$50 for the program. There is a \$3 per hour charge for before-class day care and a \$4 charge for after-class day care. Scholarships are available. For more information or to register, call Julie St. Clair at 812/465-1169.