

ABOUT LINDA

After graduating from Indiana University, my husband and I made Bloomington our home. I worked for six years as a social worker in the area of developmental disabilities. I have an art background and left social services to work at Sunrise Publications, Inc. During my nine years there, I worked in supervisory and management positions in sales operations, marketing and product development. In 2001, I started part-time at Bloomington Township as an assistant to then Trustee Nancy Brinegar. I became her deputy trustee in 2004 and became the Bloomington Township Trustee in January 2008.

It's my experience and love of the work that makes me such a good fit for the job of township trustee. I love the variety of the work. No two days are ever alike. Helping someone who is experiencing a hardship is meaningful to me. Every day I have the opportunity to make a difference. I also love the fire department. As they say, "It gets in your blood." And if it doesn't, this is no place to be. Whether the task at hand is helping a family keep their housing or pulling someone from a wreck, the township trustee's office is there when things go wrong.

In addition to my passion for the work, I bring:

- Knowledge in preparing township financial reports and annual budgets.
- Success in passing State Board of Accounts audits and familiarity with Indiana Code.
- Certification in the FEMA National Incident Management course, making the township eligible for federal grants.
- Management experience in both profit and non-profit environments.
- A social work degree from Indiana University.

What I've Done so Far

- Promoted an atmosphere of professionalism and mutual respect. Established annual employee reviews, updated personnel policies, and held weekly staff meetings.
- Despite budget cuts, increased amount of direct assistance by 86% from 2007 to 2009.
- Partnered with local businesses to renovate Community Kitchen Express, a township-owned facility in the Crestmont neighborhood. Major project completed with a minimum use of township funds.
- Reduced township office staff, froze salaries for 2010 and negotiated a more affordable health insurance plan.
- Upgraded fire department equipment, including a new medical emergency truck, new all-terrain-vehicle for brush fires and rural rescues, and new fire engine slated for delivery later this year.
- Partnered with the City of Bloomington for rapid response to fires in our shared boundaries.

I promise I will continue to:

- Collaborate with other government units and social service agencies to address hunger, affordable housing, and poverty in our community.
- Update the fire department strategic plan, including vehicle upgrades, training and personnel assessments, and response area evaluation.
- Employ best business practices, including open communication and transparency in government.
- Provide responsive and accountable emergency services at the lowest possible cost to taxpayers.