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The Polis Center Names Kelly Davila
Senior Research Analyst

INDIANAPOLIS, IN (April 14, 2016) – The Polis Center at IUPUI has named Kelly Davila Senior Research Analyst. In this role, Davila will manage ongoing research and evaluation projects involving the SAVI community information system (savi.org), analyze data, and explain research findings and their implications. SAVI, one of the nation's largest system of place-based data, helps nonprofits, government, academia, and health organizations assess trends and conditions, identify community assets, determine service gaps, and better target areas of concern based on the social and economic realities in more than 2,000 Central Indiana communities.

Davila has a background in public policy research and urban development with specific experience in academic research, applied social science (archaeology, museum curation, and oral history), and transportation planning for city government. Her major areas of emphasis include spatial analysis, spatial statistics, public policy analysis, and demographically-informed policy research. Prior to joining The Polis Center, Davila worked as a project engineer with the Trapeze Group in Cedar Rapids, IA.

She earned Master's Degrees in Urban & Regional Planning from the University of Iowa, where she attended as a Dean's Graduate Research Fellow, and Anthropology from the University of Southern Mississippi. Davila is a native of San Antonio and obtained a BA degree in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin.

The Polis Center at IUPUI, a unit of the IU School of Liberal Arts, was established in 1989 to link two types of expertise—academic and practical—for the benefit of communities in Indiana and elsewhere. It specializes in providing place-based research tools to transform data into usable information for more effective local decision-making. The Polis Center is deeply committed to the development of partnerships and the practical use of advanced information technologies. Its collaborative and entrepreneurial nature results in a unique and diverse range of applied projects to strengthen communities in Indiana and beyond.

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