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**CONGRESSWOMAN JULIA CARSON
SPEAKS AT BUTLER UNIVERSITY FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

INDIANAPOLIS – In celebration of Women's History Month, Congresswoman Julia Carson will speak at Butler University on Finding Alternatives to Violence in U.S. Society on Monday, March 26 at 5 p.m. in the Robertson Hall Johnson Room.

Born in Louisville to a single teen-age mother, Carson worked through poverty, racism and sexism to become the first woman and first African-American to represent Indianapolis in the U.S. Congress in 1996.

As a 10th District democratic representative, Carson supports legislation for increased school funding, a balanced federal budget and improved police services. She serves on the Veterans Affairs and the Banking and Financial committees, and is currently presenting the Children Handgun Injury Prevention Act to Congress.

Carson began her journey to the top in politics in 1964 as a secretary for then-U.S. Rep. Andy Jacobs Jr. She continued working with Jacobs for seven years and became one of the first high-level African-American congressional staffers. In 1972 Carson ran and was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives, and, four years later, gained a position in the state Senate.

Looking for a new challenge, Carson ran for Center Township Trustee in 1990 and was elected to serve a township strangled by a \$20 million debt. During her six years in this office, she used a hands-on, tough love approach to revamp welfare programs, get citizens back on their feet and soothe the township's financial woes.

She has twice been named the *Indianapolis Star's* Woman of the Year.

"From the physical pain of material poverty and the mindlessly cruel persecution of nitwit racism, Julia Carson made her choice, a choice of hard work, compassion and a pleasing sense of humor," said former-Congressman Jacobs of his colleague and friend. "I never cease to be amazed by ... who she has been able to help."

This event is sponsored by the Department of Political Science, Gender Studies and the Center for Citizenship and Community. For more information contact: Beverly Johnson, 317/940-9872.