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State Farm® Companies Foundation Renews ARC Grant

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – State Farm will be continuing its partnership with Illinois Wesleyan University to support the community.

Illinois Wesleyan's Action Research Center (ARC), which connects students with area non-for-profit organizations, has received a grant for more than \$53,000. This is the second year the State Farm Companies Foundation contributed funds to ARC.

"We have been pleased with the efforts of ARC and look forward to the ongoing collaboration which will engage students, faculty and community leaders in a way that not only enhances their growth and effectiveness, but also benefits local not-for-profit organizations," said Kathy Havens-Payne of State Farm.

ARC was created in 2003 to provide Illinois Wesleyan students with a set of expertise and skills necessary for applied research projects in the community.

The grant will help Illinois Wesleyan ARC Coordinator Deborah Halperin expand the program. "Together we create innovative and meaningful ways for Illinois Wesleyan and State Farm to impact our shared community. We are ready to take several exciting projects to new levels and we could not grow without State Farm's support."

In addition to the support of ARC through the State Farm Companies Foundation, State Farm will also be entering its second year of a unique summer internship experience for ten IWU students. The internships combine learning the inner workings of the insurance business and working with local not-for-profits organizations. Their work has included conducting research at the Hispanic Families Work Group, assisting with UNITY Community Center summer day camp, working on grant management for STAR literacy, and conducting outreach programs for the American Red Cross of the Heartland, the Day Care of McLean County and Heartland Head Start.

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