

Contact: Rhonda Anderson
Executive Director
Faith in Action of McHenry County
7105 Virginia Rd., Ste. 25
Crystal Lake, IL 60012
Tel: 815 455 3120, office
Email: Rhonda@fiamchenrycounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Faith in Action of McHenry County Graduates New Class of Legacy Corps Members

On April 21, 2010, Faith in Action of McHenry County (FIAMC) graduated a new class of Legacy Corps members after 20 hours of training. The Legacy Corps is a group of ten volunteers that are committed to providing 4500 hours of service to FIAMC per year. Legacy Corps members provide an array services to sustain and enhance the quality of life of senior care receivers. These services can include respite care designed to relieve caregivers, friendly visits for seniors living alone and transportation services. The 2009 class of members exceeded the call, and provided 5,685 hours of support to McHenry county seniors and their caregivers.

While serving 450 hours per year, these members receive a stipend of \$2,000 to defray expenses and earn a \$1,250 educational award for lifelong learning opportunities.

Faith in Action has partnered with Legacy Corps of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) since 2005. Legacy is one of the first AmeriCorps programs that specifically utilizes the skills, experiences and talents of adults 50 years and older. Approximately 32 Legacy Corps members have served seniors and caregivers in McHenry County through FIAMC.

Graduates who will be completing their 450 hours of service with Faith in Action of McHenry County over the next year are:

Marcia Chouinard, Cary; Genny Deutsch, McHenry; Sue Garcia, Woodstock; Sally Harris, Crystal Lake; Ronald Kane, Woodstock; Margaret Kowalczyk, McHenry; Gisela Krummel, Huntley; Erika Strasser, Algonquin; Sandee Wullenweber, Lake in the Hills; and Susan Zbierski, Crystal Lake.

About FIAMC

FIAMC began on November 1, 1998 with receipt of \$25,000 from the Robert S. Wood Johnson Foundation to establish an Interfaith Volunteer Caregiver Program for the elderly in McHenry County utilizing guidelines from the national Faith in Action program. FIAMC began under the umbrella of Family Services and became a stand alone not for profit organization in 2000.

In addition to Legacy Corps volunteers, FIAMC currently utilizes approximately 350 volunteers from faith congregations and the community at large to provide services to care recipients, 60 years of age and older, living in their own home, apartment, or with a family member in McHenry County. Such services include friendly home visits and phone calls, shopping and errands, home maintenance and repairs, light yard work, light household chores, respite services and daily assurance calls.

#####