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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### FAITH IN ACTION MCHENRY COUNTY OFFERS LIVING ALLOWANCE AND EDUCATIONAL AWARD FOR LEGACY CORPS MEMBERS AGES 50 AND ABOVE

Faith in Action McHenry County (FIAMC) is seeking adults ages 50 and above to participate in their Legacy training program, April 7-9, 2008. The FIAMC Legacy training program offers a \$2000 yearly living allowance, \$1,250 educational award as well as opportunities and training for skill development. FIAMC Legacy members are expected to volunteer approximately 10 hours of service to the organization each week.

The Faith in Action partnership with Legacy Corps of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) has existed 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 24 Legacy Corps members have served caregivers in McHenry County through FIAMC.

The primary service of Legacy Corps members is to provide caregivers for McHenry County seniors living at home a break from their care giving responsibilities each week. Legacy volunteers also provide an array of support and informational services to sustain and enhance the quality of life for the identified caregiver.

The FIAMC training will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The training will be held at the American Community Bank in Crystal Lake on 381 South Main Street in Crystal Lake.

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 24 Legacy volunteers, FIAMC currently utilizes approximately 200 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.

For more information about FIAMC Legacy training or FIAMC, please call Rhonda Anderson at 815.455.3120 or e-mail at [Rhonda@fiamchenrycounty.org](mailto:Rhonda@fiamchenrycounty.org).