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News Release | For Immediate Release

Neighbors to Nominate Community Causes for a Chance to Win Big

Forty causes will score a \$25,000 grant to assist their neighborhood.

BLOOMINGTON, **III.** (Feb. 25, 2015) – Neighbors across the country will soon have an exciting opportunity to help change their communities for the better through <u>State Farm Neighborhood Assist®</u>. This philanthropic program awards 40 causes a \$25,000 grant. Anyone in the United States can submit a cause beginning March 9 through March 29. Ultimately, voters will decide which community improvement projects win big.

Returning for its fourth year, State Farm Neighborhood Assist asks individuals to identify causes that would help make their communities safer, stronger and better-educated. Up to 4,000 causes will be accepted. The State Farm Youth Advisory Board (YAB) will then narrow down the field, using a scoring rubric to identify the top 200 submissions. The public will have a chance to vote 10 times a day from May 14 through June 3 for their favorite causes from the list of finalists. The 40 causes that receive the most votes will win a \$25,000 grant. The nominations and votes will be accepted exclusively through a free Facebook app.

Since the program began, State Farm has awarded \$3 million to 120 communities across North America, supporting a wide variety of causes, including fighting childhood hunger, helping homeless veterans, revitalizing parks, improving literacy and offering athletic programs for children with disabilities.

"State Farm Neighborhood Assist helps individuals be the face of change in their communities," said Kellie Clapper, State Farm Assistant Vice President. "From identifying an important cause to rallying your community to vote for it, this program is all about neighbors helping neighbors."

Last year, people cast millions of votes for their favorite causes, selecting winners from small towns and big cities. To learn more about State Farm Neighborhood Assist or to get the free Facebook app, visit www.statefarm.com/neighborhoodassist.

Key Dates for State Farm Neighborhood Assist:

- March 9 March 29: Submit causes, exclusively through Facebook
- March 30 May 13: YAB identifies top 200 finalists
- May 14 June 3: Vote for causes, exclusively through Facebook
- June 16: State Farm announces winners

About State Farm®

State Farm and its affiliates are the largest provider of car insurance in the U.S. In addition to providing auto insurance quotes, their 18,000 agents and more than 65,000 employees serve over 82 million policies and accounts – nearly 80 million auto, home, life, health and commercial policies, and nearly 2 million bank accounts. Commercial auto insurance, along with coverage for renters, business owners, boats and motorcycles, is available. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 41 on the 2014 Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit http://www.statefarm.com.

About the Youth Advisory Board

The Youth Advisory Board is comprised of 30 students, ages 17-20, from across the United States and Canada who serve a two-year term. Their directive is to implement a \$5 million-a-year signature service-learning initiative to address issues important to youth and communities. The Board is completely autonomous and youth-driven, and funds projects focused on issues selected by the board that impact youth. It consists of a diverse group of full-time students at high schools and universities. Each member commits about 15 hours a month to the Board and participates in three face-to-face meetings per calendar year. The Board will fund the 40 grants awarded through the State Farm Neighborhood Assist program with a portion of its \$5 million funding in 2015. For more information on the Youth Advisory Board, visit www.statefarmyab.com.

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