

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KIDS Consortium Receives \$93,000.00 State Farm® Youth Advisory Board Grant

Auburn, Maine – The State Farm Youth Advisory Board announced that KIDS Consortium received a \$93,000 service-learning grant for an environmental education initiative in Maine and New England. Grant funds will be used to support “Green” projects at K-12 schools, such as energy efficiency and recycling. Students involved in these projects will have an opportunity to participate in a 2010 Green Schools Student Summit where they will share their projects with 500 students from around the region. KIDS Consortium is one of 73 organizations to receive grants to create local programs to address community issues like environmental responsibility, teen driving safety, financial education, access to higher education, and disaster preparedness.

We are excited to have this opportunity to engage young people in projects they care about, such as energy efficiency, where they can apply what they are learning in science, math and social studies classes,” said Fran Rudoff, Executive Director of KIDS Consortium.

Based in Auburn, KIDS (Kids Involved Doing Service-Learning) Consortium helps transform classrooms and communities through an award-winning educational model that has touched more than a quarter-million students to date. Founded in 1992, KIDS is a nonprofit organization that serves schools and community organizations in Maine and New England. **The mission of KIDS Consortium is to prepare young people to be active and responsible citizens by training and supporting educators, community organizations, and youth in best practices for service-learning.** Through service-learning, K-12 students identify, research and address real community challenges, using knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. To learn more about KIDS Consortium, service-learning, and the Green Schools initiative, visit www.kidsconsortium.org.

“State Farm supports service-learning because it combines service to the community with classroom curriculum in a hands-on approach to mastering subject material while fostering civic responsibility,” said Jim Finucane, State Farm Agent.

For more information about State Farm’s Youth Advisory Board and projects being funded by State Farm, visit www.statefarmyab.com.

About State Farm:

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About the Youth Advisory Board: The State Farm Youth Advisory Board is a diverse group of 30 youth, ages 17-20, who were chosen through a competitive process to lead and oversee this \$5 million/year signature service-learning initiative. The Youth Board identified the issues, issued competitive grants and will now provide technical assistance, communication and oversight to site grantees.