

HELPING NEIGHBORS BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

State Farm Insurance Companies have long been known as one of the nation's leading providers of home, automobile, and other forms of insurance. State Farm also helps families and businesses in a different but equally important way: by supporting and strengthening the communities in which they live.

In so doing, State Farm has turned its well-known tag line—"Like A Good Neighbor, State Farm Is There"—into far more than just a corporate slogan. The insurance company has contributed literally millions of dollars to community improvements throughout the nation, with families, children, and local businesses benefiting as a result.

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A key partner in State Farm's efforts has been the 25-year-old **Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)**. Launched during one of America's worst economic crises since the Great Depression, LISC was founded with the purpose of helping nonprofit community development corporations transform distressed neighborhoods into healthy communities—good places to work, do business, and raise children.

Since 1980, LISC has marshaled more than \$6 billion to help community-based groups develop projects valued at more than \$13 billion, including: 161,000 affordable homes; 23 million square feet of retail, community, and educational space; and 60,000 neighborhood jobs. In the process, LISC has brought better lives and brighter futures to thousands of communities.

A NETWORK OF PARTNERS

But LISC would be the first to admit that it could have accomplished none of this good work without its network of more than 3,100 corporate and community partners, who have donated not just much-needed money, but time, expertise, and leadership as well. One of the most successful of these partnerships has been that with State Farm.

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State Farm Chairman and CEO Ed Rust explains that the company's involvement with LISC has generated invaluable benefits for the communities involved. "Beyond physical revitalization," he says, "our partnership has supported programs that have made neighborhoods safer, stronger, and better educated; community leaders and small business owners better trained and organized; and quality job and educational opportunities more accessible."

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

The projects undertaken by the State Farm/LISC partnership are as varied and innovative as the communities they serve:

- The opening of thousands of square feet of retail space in an impoverished Detroit neighborhood—that area's first commercial investment in years.
- A comprehensive commercial corridor revitalization program in Philadelphia that has attracted 70 new businesses and created more than 200 new jobs.
- The establishment of a Graffiti Free Zone program in the Vernon-Central community of Los Angeles that produced a 56% drop in arrests.
- The opening of a technology-training program for low-income workers in Houston, with the first graduating class of 46 already moving into higher paying jobs.
- The sponsorship of the first sit-down restaurant in a depressed Milwaukee neighborhood, an effort that catalyzed a follow-on \$3.7 million mixed-use project.
- And in Washington, D.C., the replacement of a long-vacant crime haven with a three-story office building that now houses the Children's Hospital Pediatric Center, which serves 3,500 patients each year.



Before



After

According to Ed Rust, projects like these create the foundation for long-term community success, putting into place "the core fixtures of healthy neighborhoods—stores, businesses, schools, child care centers, health care facilities, and youth centers."

STATE FARM - GOOD NEIGHBORS BUILDING GREAT COMMUNITIES