



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2011

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**Smoke and CO Detectors Given to Area Fire Departments
A grant from the State Farm® Fire Safety Fund of the Licking County Foundation
will help hundreds of area families be safer in their homes this winter.**

NEWARK, Ohio (October 17, 2011) – On October 11, 2011, State Farm® Agent, Tony Adams; State Farm® Public Affairs Specialist, Kimberly Lust; and Licking County Foundation Director, Connie Hawk presented 738 smoke and 108 carbon monoxide detectors to the chiefs of Licking County’s 18 fire departments to help hundreds of area families be safer in their homes this winter with these early-warning and life-saving alarms.

“These detectors are very important for preventing home fire fatalities and carbon monoxide poisonings by providing early warning signals and giving families time to escape,” stated Heath Fire Department Chief, Mark Huggins, who is also the President of the Licking County Firefighters Association.

For the last four years during National Fire Prevention Week, the State Farm® Fire Safety Fund of the Licking County Foundation has granted a total of 2,570 smoke and 324 CO detectors to local fire departments for distribution to families in need.

"As a part of this community for more than 50 years, State Farm® is committed to Licking County and to helping local families protect themselves from the dangers of a home fire. We are honored to partner with our local fire departments to get smoke and CO detectors into more homes. Through this effort, we hope to help protect Licking County families for many generations to come," said Susan Krieger, State Farm® Vice President of Operations.

“The Licking County Foundation is very grateful to State Farm® for their compassion and care for our community, and for their support of Licking County’s fire departments who work tirelessly to keep all of us safe from fires,” stated the Foundation’s Director, Connie Hawk.

For more information about the State Farm® Fire Safety Fund donation program or to learn more about establishing a charitable fund at Licking County Foundation, please contact Connie Hawk at 740.349.3863 or connie@thelcfoundation.org.

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PHOTO CUTLINE (left to right): State Farm® Agent, Tony Adams and State Farm® Public Affairs Specialist, Kimberly Lust present smoke and CO detectors to Heath Fire Department Chief and President of the Licking County Firefighters Association for area fire departments to distribute to families in need.

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About State Farm®

State Farm® insures more cars and homes than any other insurer in the U.S., is the leading insurer of watercraft and is also a leading insurer in Canada. State Farm's 17,000 agents and 67,000 employees serve over 78 million auto, fire, life and health policies in the United States and Canada, and more than 2 million bank accounts. State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is the parent of the State Farm family of companies. State Farm is ranked No. 32 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit statefarm.com® or in Canada statefarm.ca®.

About Licking County Foundation

Established in 1956, Licking County Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life in our area by helping caring people meet their philanthropic goals. LCF is a nonprofit charitable organization composed of 215 funds given by generous individuals, businesses and organizations. In 2010, these funds had a combined market value of \$50 million; and \$1.4 million in grants and scholarships were awarded to benefit many worthy local projects, programs, organizations and students. These grants enhanced almost every aspect of life in Licking County—including education, arts and culture, youth and families, health and human services, parks and recreation, and more. To find out more, please call 740.349.3863 or visit www.thelcfoundation.org.