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S.C. Campus Compact Awarded AmeriCorps Grant

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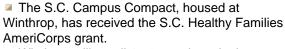
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08/18/2010

S.C. Campus **Compact Awarded AmeriCorps** Grant





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Winthrop will enroll 15-25 students in the Healthy Families program.



Ellin McDonough

ROCK HILL, S.C. - The United Way of South Carolina and the Commission on National Community Service have awarded the South Carolina Campus Compact, housed at Winthrop, the S.C. Healthy Families AmeriCorps grant.

Winthrop, as a member of the S.C. Campus Compact, will enroll between 15-25 students in the Healthy Families program, which will provide up to \$28,000 in student scholarships each year. Statewide, the Healthy Families program will recruit 250 students to enroll as part-time AmeriCorps members. As a result, the program will bring \$283,000 annually in education awards to S.C. students who provide valuable service to their communities.

To participate in AmeriCorps, members partner with a wide range of non-profit organizations to provide their communities with nutrition and wellness education and outreach activities. Members are instructed as members of Ways to Enhance Children's Activity and Nutrition (We Can!), a national childhood obesity training program. They also receive CPR, shelter and disaster preparedness training.

Once they complete 300 hours of service in the program, AmeriCorps members receive a \$1,132 Education Award that can be applied toward outstanding federal student loans or the cost of attendance at a college or university.

The S.C. Healthy Families grant award is "an example of multi-campus collaborations and collective hard work through the Campus Compact," said Ellin McDonough, program director for Service Learning, Center for Career and Civic Engagement.

The S.C. Campus Compact is made up of 14 colleges and universities who help teach students how to become effective citizens in their communities. Nationwide, Campus Compact is a national coalition of more than 1,100 college and university presidents - representing some six million students - and is the only national higher education association dedicated solely to campus-based civic engagement.

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