



Contact: Melinda Smolkin
860-297-0504
msmolkin@villageforchildren.org

For Immediate Release

VILLAGE PROGRAM RECEIVES GRANT

Hartford, CT – July 11, 2005 – GE Insurance Solutions has awarded a \$25,000 grant to the Village's After School Initiative, which provides academic, enrichment and recreation activities for fifth graders who attend Burr Elementary School in the South Green neighborhood of Hartford. The program, initially funded by the Greater Hartford Jaycees, is a collaboration between the Village and Boys and Girls Clubs of Hartford.

“We appreciate this very generous grant from GE to support our After School Initiative at our Village South - Center for Community Life,” said Village President & CEO Howard S. Garval. “We are delighted to be able to continue this program and our partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs. GE’s involvement will ensure that this important program remains available.”

GE Insurance Solutions staff members Dan Eudy, President of Property Insurance & Services; Brenda Holbrook, Process Owner; Timothy Pitcher, Senior Facultative Underwriter; and Raymond DiDonna, Business Leader, UFLIC, visited the Village South- Center for Community Life at 331 Wethersfield Avenue on June 16 to learn more about the program GE is supporting and to interact with children in the After School Initiative.

“When selecting organizations for grants, GE looks for solid programs that deliver measurable results in helping to improve academic achievement in the community. The Village is a perfect fit. We also look for opportunities that allow our employees to become involved and offer their time and talent. The Village provides an environment for us to go beyond a financial contribution, and we look forward to fostering a partnership through our participation,” said Dan Eudy, GE Insurance Solutions President of Property Insurance & Services. “I am very pleased to offer funding to the Village on behalf of GE Insurance Solutions. Our recent visit to meet the students and staff reinforced that this is an excellent program and one that we are happy to support.”

The Village for Families & Children, Inc. (the Village), a private, non-profit human services agency founded in 1809, is committed to building a community of strong, healthy families who protect and nurture children. Through its work with children and families, the Village has emerged as a preeminent mental health/human service agency serving the Hartford region and the state of Connecticut. Village services encompass three core areas of strength: Placement and Permanency (adoption, foster care and family preservation), Treatment, and Family and Community Support. For more information about the Village, please visit www.villageforchildren.org.