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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Mount Mary College and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin
To Partner on AmeriCorps VISTA Program**

MILWAUKEE (August 3, 2011) – Mount Mary College and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (HCCW) are launching “Empowering Latino Parents,” a new program funded by AmeriCorps VISTA. The three-year program, which begins in mid-September, will provide one-on-one English as a Second Language (ESL) tutoring for parents and community members in the Milwaukee area who are interested in learning and improving their English language skills.

The program is designed to equip parents with a greater understanding of their child's education, so they can increase their involvement and communication with their child's school, and be able to provide a supportive home environment where both Spanish and English are spoken. Community members, including those seeking employment or wishing to start their own business, will gain English vocabulary necessary for career advancement.

Tutoring sessions organized by Mount Mary College will take place at the HCCW located at 1021 West National Avenue in Milwaukee, WI. Students and community members are invited to volunteer to tutor. The sessions will be offered at varying times, several times a week.

To register, obtain session dates and times for the program or to volunteer, please contact “Empowering Latino Parents” Program Coordinator Erica Steele at her Mount Mary College office at (414) 258-4810, ext 262 or at steelee@mtmary.edu. For information on other programs and services provided by the HCCW, please contact Evelyn Agosto, Executive Assistant at the HCCW at (414) 643-6963, ext. 1002, or at eagosto@wi.rr.com.

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin’s first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 60 undergraduate areas of study for women and eight graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its more than 1900 students enjoy small class sizes (average 14) and 95 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary at www.mtmary.edu.

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin was incorporated in 1972 as a non-profit business organization. The HCCW creates, expands and diversifies small and Hispanic-owned businesses in Wisconsin with a strong focus in the Milwaukee Metro area. The HCCW provides educational and technical resources, fosters economic exchange between the business and corporate sectors, and promotes a network for political issues, community affairs and opportunities for the Hispanic population and community at large. Visit HCCW at www.hccw.org.

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