

Jeff Smith 4<sup>th</sup> Senate District

JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 329 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

For Immediate Release: August 18, 2009

Contact: Christine Brauner (573) 751-3599

## Senator Jeff Smith Announces Loan Helps Organization Expand in St. Louis

JEFFERSON CITY — Senator Jeff Smith, D-St. Louis, has announced <u>Riverview West Florissant</u> <u>Development Corporation</u> (RWFDC) will move to a new, permanent location in the Fourth District, thanks to a loan from the <u>Illinois Facilities Fund</u> (IFF).

IFF is the Midwest's largest <u>Community Development Financial Institution</u> (CDFI) exclusively serving non-profits. Their purpose is to make below-market facility and equipment loans to entities that serve low-income communities. IFF has been in business since 1988 and has made more than 700 loans totaling nearly \$250 million.

"This is a great opportunity for not only the Riverview-West Florissant neighborhood, but all of St. Louis," Sen. Smith said. "The RWFDC's executive director, Antoinette Cousins, does a spectacular job with the organization and this help is well-deserved. I also applaud IFF and the work they do to ensure everybody gets an equal chance in communities throughout the Midwest."

RWFDC is a 501(c)3 agency that is undertaking community/economic development activities to improve the quality of life in nine neighborhoods and other communities in the City of St. Louis. They will use the \$77,000 loan to renovate a vacant commercial building as a permanent program and administrative space.

###