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October 3, 1996

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

WORLD FOOD DAY PANEL TO DISCUSS HUNGER ISSUES

CHARLESTON -- Local panelists will discuss ways to raise awareness and fight hunger from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16, in conjunction with World Food Day.

The presentation, "People Power: A Harvest of Hope," will be in Room 210 of Klehm Hall at Eastern Illinois University.

"The purpose of World Food Day is to raise awareness and to get people involved," said Ruth Dow, Eastern professor in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences. "While World Food Day is observed internationally one day a year, we really try to encourage people to be involved year round."

Speakers will be Dawn Thomson, a crop specialist for Lakeland Farm Supply and former instructor at Lake Land College; Charles Dow, a volunteer with the Heifer Project International, a self-help project that uses livestock and learning to help people in need; Wanda Richardson, director of the Coalition for People in Need, an organization that helps Charleston residents with emergency assistance and fosters self help; and Krista Erickson, a member of Eastern's Student Volunteer Center, which

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matches students with groups dedicated to promising self-reliance and self-help programs.

In addition, WEIU-TV will broadcast this year's international teleconference from 11 a.m. to noon followed by an international panel response from 1 to 2 p.m. on Oct. 16. The international panel will be moderated by Ray Suarez of National Public Radio.

Prior to World Food Day, a CROP walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 12, from the Wesley United Methodist church. For more information, call David Primeau at 348-5936.

The WEIU-TV program, *EIU Connection*, will air at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13. Guests Judy Barford and Nancy Pals will discuss preservation of resources.