

Illinois Wesleyan University  
**Theme Housing Renewal Application**

**Cross Country House  
2010-2011**

## Mission Statement:

“The mission of the Cross Country House is to promote the progress of student health, education, and leadership through involvement with the community and campus.”

The mission of the 2010-2011 Cross Country House is one that is concise yet profound, focusing on the core beliefs and strivings of Illinois Wesleyan University itself. And make no mistake – it’s the identical mission statement we developed for Adams Hall last year; clearly though, it’s a mission statement that works, based off of the successes of this past year. We’ve become a staple in the Illinois Wesleyan community, serving as inspiration for other students in our endeavors of student health, education, and leadership.

As the Cross Country House, it’s self-evident that we are primarily composed of cross country runners – individuals with tremendous determination and work ethics. However, as one of Head Cross Country Coach Greg Huffaker’s favorite proverb stresses, we are more than merely the sum of the parts. Sure, we are all hardworking individuals, both in educational and athletic pursuits – but we’re also teammates. Living in a structured theme community would enhance our team unity, fostering an already budding sense of fellowship.

This fellowship would encompass all of our members of the Cross Country House – with majors ranging from English to Biology, Music Education to Math, we host a variety of different backgrounds. Not only can this provide residents with a facile and expedient form of finding assistance for classes, but will help encourage the liberal-arts environment here at Illinois Wesleyan. As we strive to better ourselves and others, this attitude will transcend to all students, further promoting academic prosperity on the campus as a whole.

Coach Greg Huffaker is an adamant advocate of his student-athletes being just that: students, *then* athletes. The benefits of being an athlete merely compliment the growth of each one of us as students and people in general. Coach Huffaker supports the idea of the Cross Country House – in fact, he endorses it, with the majority of the cross country team’s prospective students staying here this past year. The Cross Country House provides the perfect place to house and demonstrate to prospective students how we as runners develop team unity, and facilitates an easy means of getting to know the team and school as a whole.

As with any sport on campus, our team spends a great amount of time together – not only as a team at cross country meets or practice, but as friends as well. Whether it’s playing in the intramural softball league, starting an impromptu dance party in the dance rooms of CNS, or hosting a campus-wide Rootbeer Social, the past events of the Cross Country House prove that although we are student-athletes, we also like to have fun.

As previously stated, we are using the same mission statement as last year, because, quite simply, it works. Based on the events and programs enacted this past year, the Cross Country House has developed a streak of greatness – one, though, that we hope to surpass in the 2010-2011 school year. With both returning students and new students in our roster for next year, the veterans of the house will be able to provide the newcomers valuable insight, ultimately in an effort for fulfilling our mission statement of student health, education, and leadership here at Illinois Wesleyan University.

We have planned various new and old events for the upcoming 2010-2011 year, which aim to promote character and leadership. These programs include:

Community Programs:

- Volunteering to work track and cross country meets
- Working the annual Homecoming 5K
- Festival of Trees

Campus Programs:

- Titan EMS
- DRL Fusion group
- Cross country housing and tours for prospective students

Residential Programs:

- Team dinners
- Participation in IWU sanctioned events
- Rootbeer Social
- Sunday 'Fun Run' or Meet