

# Walmart and the Walmart Foundation Invest in Wisconsin Communities with More Than \$805.000 in Donations

14 nonprofits recognized by Walmart and the Walmart Foundation for their commitment to state

- Applications currently being accepted for the Walmart Foundation State Giving Program. Deadline is Friday, April 15, 2016 at 11:59 pm CT.
- 2016 Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign underway in Walmart stores. Program concludes April 25, 2016.

**MILWAUKEE – April 14, 2016 –** Walmart and the Walmart Foundation awarded more than \$805,000 to 14 nonprofit organizations over the last year for their dedication to the state of Wisconsin. Through its State Giving program, the Walmart Foundation awarded grants to 14 nonprofits dedicated to serving residents through its core areas of giving including hunger relief and healthy eating, sustainability, career opportunity and women's economic empowerment. Two of the nonprofit organizations also received donations as a result of their participation in the company's 2015 "Fight Hunger. Spark Change." Campaign. The 2016 Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign is currently underway and runs through April 25.

"Year after year, each of these organizations continue to provide necessary programs that aid in the well-being and improvement of the communities we serve," said Todd Peterson, Walmart regional general manager. "We're honored to support the nonprofits and look forward to seeing how they continue to assist Wisconsin residents with their State Giving grant."

### **Walmart Foundation State Giving Program**

Twice a year, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation look for organizations that address the needs of the communities they serve and make a significant social impact on a local and state level. The following 14 nonprofits received a Walmart Foundation Wisconsin State Giving grant to fund vital local programs:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of the Fox Valley received a \$40,000 grant to purchase food supplies that will provide more than 60,000 nutritious meals to Club members at nine locations in the Fox Valley.
- Boys & Girls Club of Green Bay received a \$40,000 grant to support its Summer Snack program, which provides hunger relief and healthy lifestyle education programs to more than 1,000 local children.
- Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh received a \$40,000 grant to fund meals and nutritional education classes for the organization's Healthy Habits nutrition education program, Unmet Needs meal program and Family Nights program.
- Boys & Girls Club of the Greater Chippewa Valley received a \$40,000 grant to enhance and grow its Health & Nutrition Program, which provides nutrition education, healthy snacks and dinner to local youth.
- Boys & Girls Club of Portage County received a \$40,000 grant to provide local children with more than 40,000 healthy snacks both after school and during the summer through its Healthy Snack and Meals program.
- Church Health Services received a \$60,000 grant to support its dental clinic expansion, increasing
  the availability of preventative and restorative dental care to low-income, uninsured or underinsured
  community members.
- Family Health Center of Marshfield received a \$30,000 grant to fund oral health screening clinics for individuals with developmental disabilities at more than 20 sites in Wisconsin.
- Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin received a \$50,000 grant to fund 20 mobile pantries to ensure thousands of individuals and families who are experiencing hunger will have access to healthy, nutritious food.
- <u>Feeding Wisconsin</u> received a \$50,000 grant to partner with Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen (WINK) to freeze and sauce donated fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to their member food banks and affiliated pantries.
- <u>Milwaukee Rescue Mission</u> received a \$40,000 grant to provide approximately 20,000 meals to homeless men, women, and children in Milwaukee.
- NorthLakes Community Clinic received a \$70,000 grant to provide a regular source of fresh fruits
  and vegetables, nutrition education classes and administrative assistance to high-risk patients through
  their Rx for Wellness program.

- <u>Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin</u> received a \$30,000 grant to fund its FoodShare
  Outreach Program, which creates and implements effective outreach strategies to help Wisconsinites
  enroll and access FoodShare Wisconsin (SNAP) benefits.
- The BRICK Ministries received a \$55,000 grant to support its Food Shelf Program with the purchase of food and a full-sized van that will be used to pick-up donations from local grocers and make deliveries to satellite pantries in rural areas of Wisconsin.
- Vernon Economic Development Association received a \$50,000 grant to fund its efforts to combat the abandonment of quality produce in Wisconsin.

"This generous grant from the Walmart Foundation would address one of the key challenges to increasing the supply of fresh, nutritious products in the emergency food system – time," said David Lee, Executive Director of Feeding Wisconsin. "Often, the fresh products that are donated to our food banks don't have the time left in them to be stored at our warehouses or food pantries. Having a partner like WINK transform these fresh items into a stable frozen or sauced product could prove to be transformative in our goal of increasing the availability of nutritious options for Wisconsin families visiting our food pantries."

"The Innovation Kitchen team is thrilled to be able to work with Feeding Wisconsin to help build a model for mid-tier food processing solutions that will extend the life of donated foods so they can be utilized year-round," added Rick Terrien, Founder & CEO of Wisconsin Innovation Kitchens. "We look forward to working with Feeding Wisconsin to reduce food waste and to increase the quality, variety and amounts of good food available year-round through their food pantries."

To be considered for support, prospective grantee organizations must submit applications through the Walmart Foundation State Giving Program's online grant application. Applicants must have a current 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in order to meet the program's minimum eligibility criteria. For more information, visit <a href="http://foundation.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/state-giving">http://foundation.walmart.com/apply-for-grants/state-giving</a>. Applications are currently being accepted through Friday, April 15, 2016 at 11:59 CT.

### Fight Hunger. Spark Change. Campaign

Launching in 2015, the nationwide Fight Hunger. Spark Change. initiative encouraged customers, suppliers and associates to get involved in hunger relief efforts. Wisconsin food banks that were participants in the inaugural campaign and received donations included:

- Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin received a \$128,449 donation
- Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin received a \$42,378 donation

"I am proud of our partnership with Walmart to reach people in different ways," said Dan Stein, president and CEO of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. "Walmart's engagement of their customers in hunger-relief through social media, donating at the register and product purchases resulted in raising a tremendous amount of meals for those in need in southwestern Wisconsin."

The 2016 Fight Hunger. Spark Change. campaign launched in early April and encourages customers to support hunger relief efforts in three unique ways: (1) by making a donation to their local Feeding America food bank at the register, (2) by purchasing select products from partnering food companies or (3) by participating in the #WeSparkChange social media challenge. Nationwide, the efforts have raised more than \$10 million to support Feeding America and its affiliate food banks across the country.

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## **About Walmart**

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) helps people around the world save money and live better - anytime and anywhere - in retail stores, online, and through their mobile devices. Each week, nearly 260 million customers and members visit our 11,554 stores under 72 banners in 28 countries and e-commerce websites in 11 countries. With fiscal year 2015 revenue of \$485.7 billion, Walmart employs approximately 2.2 million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporate philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting <a href="http://corporate.walmart.com">http://corporate.walmart.com</a> on Facebook athttp://facebook.com/walmart and on Twitter at <a href="http://twitter.com/walmart">http://twitter.com/walmart</a>.

#### **About Philanthropy at Walmart:**

By using our strengths to help others, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation create opportunities for people to live better every day. We have stores in 28 countries, employing more than 2.2 million associates and doing business with thousands of suppliers who, in turn, employ millions of people. We are helping people live better by accelerating upward job mobility and economic development for the retail workforce; addressing hunger and making healthier, more sustainably-grown food a reality; and building strong communities where we operate and inspiring our associates to give back. Whether it is helping to lead the fight against hunger in the United States with \$2 billion in cash and in-kind donations or supporting Women's Economic Empowerment through a series of grants totaling \$10 million to the Women in Factories training program in Bangladesh, China, India and Central America, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation are not only working to tackle key social issues, we are also collaborating with others to inspire solutions for long-lasting systemic change. To learn more about Walmart's giving, visit <a href="https://www.foundation.walmart.com">www.foundation.walmart.com</a>.

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