



For Immediate Release

GM Foundation Awards \$75,000 in Plant City Grants During Spring Hill Pay It Forward Festival

Eleven area organizations benefit from the company's grant program

SPRING HILL, Tenn. – The General Motors Foundation announced grants totaling \$75,000 to support programs at 11 area nonprofits at the General Motors Spring Hill Pay It Forward Festival's Opening Ceremony on Saturday, June 20. This is the fifth consecutive year the Foundation's Plant City Grants were awarded in the home of GM's Spring Hill Manufacturing facility.

This year, the site elected to award the funding during the plant-sponsored Spring Hill Pay It Forward Festival, an all-day event presented by SpringHillFresh.com – a pro-local community and business media source – that encourages the community to "Live forward. Give forward. Pay it forward." It's one of the city's largest events of the year, providing an entertaining summer venue that elevates city pride and connectedness among residents, local businesses, and visitors by fostering a creative and meaningful environment to build strong community bonds.

Attendance nearly doubled from 2014, enjoying a record 9,000 visitors.

"We are thrilled to partner with General Motors to present the Spring Hill Pay It Forward Festival," said Hazel Nieves, festival organizer. "Their support has been very refreshing so kicking off the festival by announcing GM Foundation grant funding to even more area non-profits seemed not only fitting, but a wonderful display of generosity to this community that we serve."

"Giving back to the community that has supported General Motors in Spring Hill for nearly 30 years is an important part of what we do each day," said Ken Knight, complex manager, GM Spring Hill Manufacturing. "Through the GM Foundation's grant funding, we support the work of local non-profits who tirelessly pave the way for a better tomorrow."

Through the GM Foundation's Plant City Grants program, funds will support the following organizations and community programs:

- **100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee** – The grant will be used to reinforce programs that provide academic and social skills development for Nashville's inner city youth.
- **American Red Cross** – The grant funded an additional emergency services vehicle for Maury County.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Maury County** – Funding will support the organization's educationally-driven life skills programs for 287 6th through 12th grade Maury County youth.

- **Gentry Education Center** – This grant funding the expansion of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program in the Franklin Special School District.
- **Harvest Share Food Pantry** – Funds will be used to stock the food pantry, which serves hungry men, women and children who reside in Maury County, Tenn.
- **Imagination Library (South Central Tennessee Workforce Alliance)** – The grant fully funded one month’s worth of free books mailed to Maury County children through the Governor’s Imagination Library program.
- **Maury County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** – Funds support programs that train court-appointed volunteers to advocate for abused and neglected children within Maury County.
- **Tennessee Court Appointed Special Advocates** – Their mission mirrors Maury County CASA, but impacts the statewide effort to advocate for neglected and abused children in Tennessee’s court system.
- **Tennessee Environmental Council** – Funds supported a new rain garden installation at Spring Hill’s Port Royal Park, and continued maintenance for other Spring Hill rain gardens kept up with the help of the Boys & Girls Club of Maury County.
- **United Way of Maury and Williamson Counties** – Funding will be used to back programs that address critical issues in the areas of poverty, literacy, personal abuse, substance abuse, youth development, senior services, and physical and developmental disabilities.

The GM Foundation grants are given to a wide variety of organizations across the country that families rely on to provide much needed services, improve education and impact the quality of life within their respective communities. The grants to these organizations and institutions will make these communities even greater places to work, live and grow.

About the GM Foundation

Since its inception in 1976, the GM Foundation has donated hundreds of millions of dollars to American charities, educational organizations and to disaster relief efforts worldwide. The GM Foundation focuses on supporting Education, Health and Human Services, the Environment and Community Development initiatives, mainly in the communities where GM operates. Funding of the GM Foundation comes solely from GM. The last contribution to the GM Foundation was made in 2001. For more information, visit www.gm.com/gmfoundation.

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