

## Walmart Foundation Giving – A Focus on Education

At Walmart, we understand how critical education is to the lives and well-being of all Americans. In 2008, Walmart and its Foundation gave more than \$66 million to fund educational programs in communities across the country. Through our scholarship programs alone, the company awarded more than \$8 million in 2008. By supporting education, the Walmart Foundation ensures that the leaders of tomorrow have access to the quality education opportunities they need to be successful today.

The Walmart Foundation's interests within education include:

- Support for Teachers
- First-Generation College Student Success
- Minority-Serving Institution Support
- Job Skill Training and Workforce Development
- Dropout Prevention and Re-Engagement
- Veterans' Education

### Teacher Rewards Program

- To help offset the estimated \$500 a year teachers spend out of their own pockets for classroom supplies, Walmart and Sam's Club launched Teacher Rewards. This program provided more than \$4 million to 40,000 deserving teachers across the United States during the 2009 back-to-school season.
- Focusing on schools with the highest level of need, each Walmart store and Sam's Club location selected one local kindergarten through eighth grade school to participate in the Teacher Rewards program. Ten teachers per school were randomly selected to each receive a \$100 Teacher Reward card to purchase classroom supplies from Walmart, Sam's Club or from our Web sites.

### First-Generation College Student Success Grants

- **The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) – \$2.2 million:** CIC is an association of independent colleges and universities. The Walmart Foundation's grant established the "Walmart College Success Awards" program. The program provides \$100,000 grants to competitively selected CIC institutional members that have developed expertise with educating first-generation students and ensuring their success.
- **The Foundation for Independent Higher Education (FIHE) – \$500,000:** FIHE works with a network of member state and regional fundraising associations to secure financial resources in support of America's independent colleges and universities as well as their students. The Walmart Foundation's grant supported FIHE's First Opportunity Partners Venture Fund, a national initiative that helps support first generation, low-income and minority higher education students.

### Grants Supporting Minority-Serving Institutions

- **The Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP) – \$4.2 million:** IHEP serves as the facilitator for the Alliance for Equity for Higher Education, the coalition of nearly 350 minority-serving institutions (MSI's) including Historically Black College and Universities (HBCU), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI's), and Tribal Colleges and Universities. The Foundation's grant will be used to award 30 colleges with grants of \$100,000 to improve student retention and academic success.
- **The Thurgood Marshall College Fund – \$1 million:** The Thurgood Marshall College Fund provides merit scholarships to students attending public and state historically black colleges and universities. Foundation support provides African-American students with additional opportunities for educational advancement.
- **Excelencia in Education – \$1.4 million:** *Excelencia* in Education aims to accelerate higher education success for Latino students. The Walmart Foundation's grant of \$1.4 million will support the replication of effective institutional programs that promote Latino student success at institutions across the country, with a special emphasis on the success of first-generation students.

## Job Skills Training and Workforce Development Grants

- **YouthBuild USA – \$5 million:** YouthBuild USA is a youth and community development program that offers disadvantaged youth the opportunity to earn their GED's or high school diplomas while obtaining career development skills. Walmart Foundation funding expanded and enhanced YouthBuild USA's programming, including initiatives to increase "green" building practices and training for YouthBuild participants and graduates.
- **American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) – \$2.5 million:** AACC is the primary advocacy organization for community colleges at the national level and works closely with directors of state offices to inform and affect state policy. The Walmart Foundation's grant to AACC supported the creation of new workforce training programs in 20 community colleges in the AACC.

## Grants Addressing Dropout Prevention and Re-Engagement

- **Gateway to College – \$2.5 million:** Gateway to College serves at-risk youth, 16-20 years old, who have dropped out of school. The program gives students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma while simultaneously earning college credits and achieving college success. Walmart Foundation funding will allow the Gateway to College model to be replicated in four new cities.
- **Communities in Schools (CIS) – \$2 million:** The CIS network of local affiliates and state offices provides access to needed services for more than two million young people and their families in 27 states and D.C. The Walmart Foundation's grant provided college scholarships and portfolio support to students participating in CIS' Performance Learning Centers (PLC). PLCs are small, non-traditional high schools designed to engage students who are not succeeding in the traditional school setting. Foundation funding will also support replication of the PLC model at two new locations.
- **America's Promise Alliance (APA) – \$1 million:** APA is the nation's largest multi-sector collaborative dedicated to the well-being of children and youth. APA seeks to improve the lives of disadvantaged youth by ensuring that more children gain access to "The Five Promises." Consistent experiences of the Five Promises – caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education and opportunities to help others – have been correlated with increased academic achievement, civic engagement and social competence. A Walmart Foundation grant supported dropout prevention summits currently being held by APA across the U.S.
- **National Guard Youth ChalleNge Program - \$250,000:** The National Guard Youth ChalleNge Program is a multi-phased intervention program dedicated to assisting high school dropouts between the ages of 16-18. The ChalleNge Program's mission is to intervene and reclaim the lives of at-risk youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults. Walmart Foundation funding allowed the National Guard Youth Foundation to create additional vocational/technical training opportunities by awarding stipends to allow ChalleNge participants to attain job skills in areas of their choice.

## Veterans' Education Grants

- **The American Council on Education (ACE) – \$2.5 million:** ACE serves as a consensus leader on key higher education issues and seeks to influence public policy through advocacy, research, and program initiatives. A Walmart Foundation grant was awarded to ACE to support veterans' assistance programs at 20 colleges and universities.
- **Colleges and Universities with Demonstrated Success in Veterans' Support - \$1 million:** As part of the Walmart Foundation's commitment to help the people who serve our country pursue higher education, grants of \$100,000 each were awarded to ten colleges and universities (Arkansas State University, Citrus College, Cleveland State University, San Diego University, San Diego City College, Mississippi State University, Florida Community College, University of Incarnate Word, University of Minnesota, Montgomery College) to build on programs and resources that help veterans throughout their college careers.
- **Student Veterans of America (SVA) – \$100,000:** Student Veterans of America is a coalition of student veterans groups from college campuses across the United States that works to develop new student groups, coordinate between existing student groups, and advocate on behalf of student veterans at the local, state, and national level. Walmart Foundation funding helped establish additional chapters and support student veteran advocates nationwide.