



FEED First America Receives \$3,000 Grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to Support **SUMMER Literacy**

Little Rock, AR **May 12, 2016** – This week, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation awarded FEED First America a \$3,000 grant to support Summer Literacy. This local grant award is part of over \$7.1 million in grants awarded to more than 900 schools, nonprofits and organizations across the 43 states that Dollar General serves.

"Give a child a meal, and you feed them for a day. But if you feed them and teach them to read, you give them a greater gift that will empower them for a lifetime." Al Lockett, Exec. Director.

The GAP Stops Here! Summer Literacy Program

This was the inaugural year of a summer literacy program designed to stop summer learning loss. Summer learning loss is where students lose academic skills over the summer. It is one of the most significant causes of the achievement gap and one of the strongest contributors to the growing high school dropout rate. Every summer many students lose two to three months in reading. Research shows that while gaps in student achievement remain relatively constant during the school year, the gaps widen significantly during the summer.

"Consistent with our mission of *Serving Others*, we are excited to provide these organizations with funding to further literacy and education across the communities we call home," said Todd Vasos, Dollar General's CEO. "It is always so exciting to see the true and meaningful impact the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has on both children and adults looking to improve their lives through literacy."

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$120 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 7.3 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

About FEED First America

FEED First America is the evolution of the nationally successful afterschool tutoring program started in 2005. The acronym FEED stands for Food, Enrichment, & Educational Development. We are a service organization with a mission to work at the grassroots level, in low socioeconomic communities where the need is greatest. We provide meals, enrichment activities, and educational support to underserved at-risk populations 18 Years of age and younger. The meals we prepare serve as great inducement to get children off the streets during the high crime hours between 3pm to 6pm. It allows youths to participate in enrichment activities and educational support in a safe and secure environment. This is an innovative project that provides a new dynamic of hope and high expectations for meeting the needs of communities that, until now, is accepting of mediocrity, poor performance, and low expectations. www.feedfirstamerica.org

About the Dollar General Literacy Foundation

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education as part of the company's mission of ***Serving Others*** for over 20 years. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$120 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 7.3 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education. For more information about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and its grant programs, visit www.dgliteracy.org.

About Dollar General Corporation

Dollar General Corporation (NYSE: DG) has been delivering value to shoppers for over 75 years through its mission of ***Serving Others***. Dollar General helps shoppers Save time. Save money. Every day!® by offering products that are frequently used and replenished, such as food, snacks, health and beauty aids, cleaning supplies, clothing for the family, housewares and seasonal items at low everyday prices in convenient neighborhood locations. Dollar General operates 12,483 stores in 43 states as of January 29, 2016. In addition to high quality private brands, Dollar General sells products from America's most-trusted manufacturers such as Clorox, Energizer, Procter & Gamble, Hanes, Coca-Cola, Mars, Unilever, Nestle, Kimberly-Clark, Kellogg's, General Mills, and PepsiCo. For more information on Dollar General, please visit www.dollargeneral.com.

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