



**Buffalo
Urban League**

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Buffalo Urban League Receives Over \$40,000 from Wal-Mart Foundation for Project ANSWER Program

BUFFALO, NY, August 17, 2009 – The Buffalo Urban League's Project ANSWER (Activities Necessary for Successful Work Experience Results) program will congratulate 14 new graduates on September 4, thanks in part due to a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. Earlier this summer, the Wal-Mart Foundation awarded the organization with a grant for over \$40,000 to assist with the Customer Service and Computer training component of Project ANSWER program. These graduates completed the eight week course from July 6, 2009 through August 28, 2009

"Wal-Mart's generosity has enabled Project ANSWER to expand the Customer Service and Computer training to more individuals so that they can gain and retain employment. The program provides an intensive, personalized training approach." said Brenda McDuffie, President & CEO of the Buffalo Urban League. "The participants learn new skills and enhance what they already know, enabling them to be more marketable to area businesses. "

Project ANSWER assists Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program recipients who are not in compliance with their work requirements. The goal of the program is to provide intensive case management services to clients to mitigate the barriers to compliance such as housing issues, daycare, mental/substance abuse issues and limited work skills. Ultimately, the Buffalo Urban League program empowers people to overcome their barriers and assists them to create a clear plan for achieving their personal and professional goals. Project ANSWER is funded through the Erie County Department of Social Services.

Approximately 150 people a year are served, and the goal is to achieve compliance with 75% of those recipients. Project ANSWER provides vision and empowerment to a wealth of families. The Buffalo Urban League, Inc. provides a comprehensive array services to strengthen individuals, families, and the Greater Buffalo community.

"Wal-Mart is very pleased to be supporting the Buffalo Urban League and the Project ANSWER program, and we are committed to helping those in need in the communities where we serve," said Ethan Minkel, Market Manager, Wal-Mart. "Through this grant, we are hopeful that those who take part in the program will enter today's workforce more prepared and better able to handle any situation they face in their employment and career."

(MORE)

The contribution to the Buffalo Urban League was made possible through the Wal-Mart Foundation's New York State Giving Program (SGP). Through this program, the Wal-Mart Foundation supports organizations that create opportunities so people can live better. The Wal-Mart Foundation State Giving Program strives to award grants that have a long-lasting, positive impact on communities across the U.S.

Last year, the New York State Giving Program awarded more than \$13.3 million to local organizations. In New York, a team of local associates determine needs within each state, review eligible grant applications and make funding recommendations to the Wal-Mart Foundation.

To be considered for support, perspective grantee organizations must submit applications through the Wal-Mart Foundation State Giving Program's online grant application. Eligible applicants must have a current 501(c) (3) tax-exempt status in order to meet the program's minimum funding criteria. Additional information about the program's funding guidelines and application process are available online at www.walmartfoundation.org/stategiving.

From February 2008 through January 2009, the Wal-Mart Foundation awarded more than \$423 million in cash and in-kind gifts, an \$85.6 million increase over its global giving in the previous year. Wal-Mart's FYE 2009 giving breakdown:

- In the U.S., Wal-Mart gave more than \$378 million in cash and in-kind gifts, up from \$296 million in 2007.
- In international markets, Wal-Mart gave \$45.5 million in cash and in-kind gifts, up from \$41 million in 2007.
- Globally, Wal-Mart's customers and associates gave more than \$106 million through in-store giving programs that benefit local charities.
- In total, Wal-Mart, its Foundations, its customers and its associates supported communities around the globe with nearly \$530 million in charitable contributions during FYE 2009.

About Philanthropy at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) and the Wal-Mart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. Through its philanthropic programs and partnerships, the Wal-Mart Foundation funds initiatives focused on creating opportunities in education, workforce development, economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. From February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009, Wal-Mart – and its domestic and international Foundations – gave more than \$423 million in cash and in-kind gifts globally. To learn more, visit www.walmartfoundation.org

Additional information about the services that Buffalo Urban League provides to the community is available at www.buffalourbanleague.org

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