



DEVELOPING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

When Sam Walton opened his first Walmart, it was strongly grounded in its local community. Today, Walmart's 2.3 million associates are residents, neighbors, friends and relatives in thousands of communities around the world.

Walmart aims to strengthen the health of our communities not only by providing products, services and jobs through our retail business, but also by facilitating associate volunteerism along with local donations from our suppliers, the Walmart Foundation, customers and associates.

We believe that strengthening local communities creates a virtuous circle of value for business as well as society. Inclusive, vibrant communities support business growth, which creates additional opportunities for associates. In turn, having associates and customers who are better engaged leads to more inclusive and vibrant communities.

We're developing local communities through two key strategies:



Supporting community engagement



Engaging associates and customers to help others



65,000+
community grants
awarded in FY2017

Sam's Club®



Supporting community engagement

In addition to investing in local communities by providing jobs, building stores and sourcing products, we support efforts by our associates and others to foster more inclusive, vibrant communities. We provide that support in a variety of ways, including grants, in-kind donations and participation in local initiatives.

Walmart donated more than \$100 million in community grants in FY2017.

Supporting diversity and inclusion in our communities

Just as diversity and inclusion build stronger and more vibrant organizations, we believe those same elements contribute to stronger communities. Following the incidents that occurred earlier in FY2017 in the U.S. communities of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Charlotte, North Carolina; Dallas, Texas; St. Paul, Minnesota and Tulsa, Oklahoma, we received numerous inquiries from our associates and community organizations asking what we could do to help build bridges across communities. In response, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation provided more than \$500,000 in grants to support community cohesion in FY2017.

Our efforts included supporting programs to encourage dialogue in some of the affected communities. For example, the Walmart Foundation made a grant of \$75,000 to the Urban League of Greater New Orleans to help bring together law enforcement and the community. The League started with a town hall to discuss concerns regarding law enforcement and



IMPACT

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A film of their own

The second annual Bentonville Film Festival (BFF), founded by Walmart, Academy Award winning actor and gender advocate Geena Davis and entrepreneur Trevor Drinkwater, took place in Bentonville, Arkansas in May 2016. The goal of the festival is to showcase the work of diverse directors and actors, and just as important, to bring about change within the film industry. According to the BFF, women make up only 7 percent of film directors and 14 percent of television directors in the U.S. and 31 percent of all speaking roles in top-grossing films. Additionally, people of color represent just 12 percent of directors and speaking characters in television and 13 percent of roles in film.

The festival, which provides distribution for prize-winning projects, brings together a diverse group of directors, producers, actors and designers to share their work and tell their stories. This year featured films directed by women and people of color as well as numerous stories about the LGBT community.

The 2016 festival also featured a Diversity & Inclusion Summit, an immersion event hosted by Deloitte with the aim of helping people understand unconscious bias. Geena Davis and award-winning journalist Soledad O'Brien addressed the audience, sharing profound personal stories and reinforcing the need for purposeful commitment in confronting bias. The festival founders believe that diversity in film can drive social change in the way people perceive gender roles and the aspirations of diverse men and women. As Davis says, "If they can see it, they can be it."



the Walmart 
Foundation invested
\$75,000
with the Hallie Q. Brown
Community Center

the criminal justice system, as well as concerns arising from a shooting incident in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. For example, the Walmart Foundation also invested \$75,000 with the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center in St. Paul, Minnesota to fund outreach to youth and connect them with resources and organizations, including education, job skills and training, counseling and financial resources and assistance. The goal of the program is to help reduce juvenile crime rates and build relationships between youth and other community stakeholders.



Giving back in our headquarter region

Walmart has two global headquarters, which support our operations in 28 countries around the world—Bentonville, Arkansas, and the San Francisco Bay Area, California. We're proud to be a part of these thriving communities and to give back to them.

- **Northwest Arkansas.** Northwest Arkansas has been home to Walmart since Sam Walton opened his first store in Rogers, Arkansas. Today, we operate all over the world, but we still call northwest Arkansas home. In FY2017, we invested more than \$10 million to support local organizations enhancing hunger relief systems, public health programs and access to arts and recreation. In FY2017, Walmart and the Walmart Foundation made a multi-year \$8 million commitment toward the construction of the first pediatric health care campus in the region, Arkansas Children's Hospital, Northwest, serving children in an 11-county area.
- **The San Francisco Bay Area.** The San Francisco Bay Area, where many of our eCommerce associates are located, has been another global hometown since 2000. Here we make grants aimed to help address community challenges. For example, we provided a grant of \$575,000 in FY2017 to Cities of Service to continue volunteer initiatives in Bay Area cities that address local disaster preparedness challenges such as flood hazards and to help enhance community preparedness plans.

SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



SOUTH AFRICA: Massmart regularly spends 1 to 2 percent after tax of its profits supporting the most vulnerable people in surrounding communities, including through projects promoting early childhood development and facilitating school maintenance and repairs.

U.S: To encourage associate volunteerism at scale, Walmart U.S. runs a program called Volunteerism Always Pays (VAP), through which associates earn money for eligible charities in the form of Walmart donations, simply by volunteering at least 25 hours. In FY2017, 73,000 full- and part-time associates volunteered more than 1.2 million hours, generating over \$12 million in Walmart donations.





Engaging associates and customers to help others

Our associates and customers around the world contribute their time, expertise and money to Walmart-supported initiatives such as hunger relief and disaster relief, as well as to a range of causes they are personally passionate about, such as education and hospitals.

Empowering associates to engage in the community

The nonprofit organizations Walmart and the Walmart Foundation supports are often in need of specific skills. At the same time, we have over 2.3 million associates with a broad range of skills and passions. In FY2017, Walmart continued to expand programs to enhance skills-based volunteerism, in which associates with a particular expertise, for example in technology or logistics, are matched with charities that need them.

- **Leveraging our legal skills.** Walmart's legal associates initiated the Medical-Legal Partnership program, which has helped more than 140 families in Arkansas access medical benefits and services.
- **Utilizing our creative skills.** Walmart's marketing creative team completed four installations of public art along the Northwest Arkansas trail system. The team also volunteered time to contribute to the newly established Bentonville Arts District — including installing murals, sculpture and interactive art.

Supporting our associates' and customers' generosity

We strive to support the generosity of our associates and customers as they seek to address needs in their communities. In markets across the globe, Walmart supports fundraising and other initiatives in local communities. Examples of such programs include:



ARGENTINA: Walmart Argentina's annual campaign, "With a little we do a lot," invites customers to round up their spare change and donate to worthy causes. The campaign is in 102 stores around the country. In 2016, more than AR \$1 million was collected, which was donated to C ritas Argentina.

INDIA: At Walmart India, associates and customers participated in blood donation drives to support the National Thalassemia Welfare Society. The donations went to help children affected by thalassemia—a blood disorder that requires a blood transfusion almost every day. In FY2017, we conducted seven donation camps in five Best Price stores and home office.



JAPAN: Walmart Japan continued its store fundraising initiative called "Bokin" in FY2017, supporting four charitable programs covering food banks, care for sick children, providing school meals in Africa, and forest restoration. In FY2017, more than 10.9 million yen was raised for these programs, with Walmart Japan matching each contribution yen-for-yen.

U.S.: Walmart and Sam's Club associates in the U.S. and Canada continued their support for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMNH) through a fundraising campaign that ran in stores and clubs. CMNH reports that over \$60 million in cash and in-kind was contributed in 2016 through that campaign, in addition to grants from Walmart and the Walmart Foundation.





CHALLENGES

Developing local communities

Skills-based volunteerism requires a new level of technology. Our associates are deeply engaged in their communities. In the U.S. alone, they volunteered more than 1.2 million hours in FY2017. However, precisely matching the skills of our 2 million plus associates with the nonprofit organizations around the world that need them requires new approaches. Walmart is piloting technological solutions to help organizations find the help they need.

