

GENERAL MOTORS



*Creating Productive Community Spaces
In Southwest Detroit*



For Immediate Release

General Motors Partners with Southwest Detroit for Annual teamGM Cares Week

Detroit, September 8, 2016 – General Motors volunteers will participate in teamGM Cares Week, an annual week-long event taking place during the week of September 12th through September 16, 2016. Uniting GM employees with community residents, the event grants GM employees the opportunity to make a difference in Southwest Detroit. Focusing on community sustainability, environment, and STEM activities, teamGM Cares Week focuses on creating productive community spaces in the Junction Street Clean Neighborhood Project as well as sprucing up the **Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation's** Robotics Engineering Center of Detroit (RECD). The Junction Street Clean Neighborhood project, a longstanding community initiative, connects lead non – profit partner Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision, lead corporate partner The Ideal Group, Detroit Cristo Rey High School and other local businesses to transform blighted places into community spaces.

teamGM Cares Week, which annually consists of many projects in metro Detroit and other communities across the U.S., allows GM employees to spend their work days giving back to the communities where they live and work.

“Working on Junction Street is always special because it is a true community effort,” said Russ Brewster from GM, “The local businesses block committees, schools and residents all participate. The work we did in 2014 looks better today than when we did it. Also the community continues to work the other 51 weeks during the year when General Motors isn’t there.”

Among their numerous tasks throughout the week, GM volunteers will assist Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision to transform repeat dumpsites into rain gardens to manage stormwater and deter future dumping. Volunteers also plan to develop STEM Classrooms at Holy Redeemer Elementary School and refurbish the Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation’s RECD Center, spurring youth to develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills. This project aims to reach 100 volunteers per day, uniting GM employee volunteers, community organizations, and neighborhood residents to reveal the pride and resiliency of the Southwest Detroit community.

Local southwest Detroit schools, businesses and community organizations will work alongside GM volunteer teams to remove blight, pick up trash, cut grass and paint over graffiti in a beautification effort. Each group has pledged to adopt an area along Junction Street and help keep the area clean with a goal of allowing residents to walk safely along Junction Street.

Communities and nonprofits across the country will receive a helping hand from General Motors’ employee volunteers. This Southwest Detroit neighborhood consists of the residential neighborhood from Michigan Avenue to Fort Street, an expansion of the Merritt Street Neighborhood Project. Junction Street includes two community gardens, Scarcyny Park and the Cadillac Urban Gardens, and many family owned businesses.

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Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation
1211 Trumbull St, Detroit, MI 48216
www.dhdc1.org

Phone: 313.967.4880

Fax: 313.967.4884



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Development Corporation



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About Detroit Hispanic Development Corporation - Founded in 1997 by Angela Reyes, DHDC provides life changing services to Southwest Detroit youth and their families. Growing to service almost 5,000 individuals annually, DHDC remains committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment that promotes family, education, and healthy lifestyles. Services include Youth Leadership, Urban Arts, ESL & GED courses, FIRST Robotics, Padres Unidos, parent support programs, reentry services, including the Freedom Ink Tattoo Removal program, and community organizing. For more information on DHDC, visit www.dhdc1.org.

The Ideal Group, Inc. is headquartered in Southwest Detroit with an additional location in Howell, Michigan and offices in Florida and Arizona. The Ideal Group consists of seven companies with approximately 500 employees and sales approaching \$300 million. Included in The Ideal Group are: Ideal Contracting, Ideal Shield, Ideal Setech, Ideal Setech Share-the-Spare, Ideal MRO Surplus Now, Ideal Utility Services and Ideal's newest company, Ideal Steel. For more information on Ideal, visit www.weareideal.com.

About Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the environment and strengthen the economy of Southwest Detroit. They work together with residents, community organizations, government agencies, schools, youth groups, businesses and industries to combat environmental issues. The organization is funded through memberships, individual and corporate donations, and federal, state and local grants. SDEV is the lead non-profit partner in the Merritt Street Neighborhood Improvement Plan, Cadillac Urban Gardens on Merritt and Scarcyny Park and Garden. For more information, visit www.sdevweb.org.

General Motors Co. (NYSE:GM, TSX: GMM) and its partners produce vehicles in 30 countries, and the company has leadership positions in the world's largest and fastest-growing automotive markets. GM, its subsidiaries and joint venture entities sell vehicles under the Chevrolet, Cadillac, Baojun, Buick, GMC, Holden, Jiefang, Opel, Vauxhall and Wuling brands. More information on the company and its subsidiaries, including OnStar, a global leader in vehicle safety, security and information services can be found at <http://www.gm.com>

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CONTACTS:

Sherita Smith (313) 967-4880
Sylvia Gucken (734) 674-5118

ssmith@dhdc1.org
sgucken@weareideal.com

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1211 Trumbull St, Detroit, MI 48209

Phone: 313.967.4880

www.dhdc1.org

Fax: 313.967.4884



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