



MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Distribution

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Fry's Donates \$15,000 to Community Gardens of Tucson to Help Fight Food Insecurity

TUCSON, Ariz. (September XX, 2021)— Fry's Food Stores donated \$15,000 to Community Gardens of Tucson (CGT) today to help families gain access to fresh and nutritious food as part of Kroger's Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social impact plan to end hunger in communities and eliminate waste across the company by 2025. The funds will be used to help Tucsonans grow and produce healthy food together through the Adopt-A-Garden and Kids in the Garden programs.

"It's important to Fry's that everyone have access to fresh, nutritious food as reflected in our tagline Fresh for Everyone," said Monica Garnes, president of Fry's Food Stores. "Partnering with the Community Gardens of Tucson to help teach the community how to grow their own fresh fruits and vegetables is an important piece of helping those who might be food insecure to have delicious and healthy options in their diet. I'm excited Fry's volunteers are here today helping to prep the beds so the community can start using the garden as soon as possible."

The donation was awarded through the Kroger Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity founded in 2018 to address a fundamental absurdity in our food system: 40% of the food produced is thrown away while 1 in 8 Americans struggle with hunger.

"This investment will ensure that CGT achieves two important goals: to instruct and inspire families how to garden and grow fresh, healthy and nutritious food for the table and to rejuvenate eight of CGT's community gardens so that their productivity and social benefits are maximized for all our gardeners," said Parker Filer, CGT's Board Chair. "Fry's financial investment in CGT will help to provide greater food resiliency for Tucsonans, as well as publicly showcase the wonderful new partnership between CGT and Fry's."

Fry's will present Community Gardens of Tucson with a donation check during a community gardening revitalization event at the Pio Decimo Garden located at 845 S. 7th Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701 on **Wednesday, September 22 at 8:00 a.m.**

About Fry's Food Stores

At Fry's Food Stores, a company of The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR), we are Fresh for Everyone™ and dedicated to our Purpose: To Feed the Human Spirit®. Headquartered in Tolleson, we employ more than 20,000 associates and operate 124 Fry's Food Stores and 94 fuel centers across the state. Fry's has been serving Arizonans since 1960 and was selected as the 2019 Business of the Year by the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. As a division of The Kroger Family of Companies, we care about the communities we serve, working to end hunger and eliminate waste across the company through our Zero Hunger | Zero Waste social impact plan. In 2020, we provided nearly 12 million meals to Arizona's hungry families.

About Community Gardens of Tucson

For 30 years, Community Gardens of Tucson (CGT) has tirelessly pursued its mission to build community gardens where Tucsonans grow food, work and learn together, and nurture well-being in our communities. CGT, which administers 20 gardens across Tucson, fulfills its vision of creating a stronger, healthier, more vibrant Tucson by focusing on six core programs, including Kids in Gardens, Family Gardening Camp, Food Resiliency, Desert Gardening, Adopt A Garden, and Garden Stories. One of CGT's central tenets is to offer hope to those in our community who are economically disadvantaged by providing them with gardening opportunities and the means to bring fresh, organic, nutritious food to table. It is in that spirit that we provide thousands of dollars in scholarships to hundreds of our gardeners, including refugees and those who otherwise lack the financial means to enroll in our programs.

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