

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 27, 2021

Heidi Pedicone, Program Director | Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Phone: (724) 836-4121 | Email: <u>hpedicone@keeppabeautiful.org</u> | Web site: <u>www.keeppabeautiful.org</u>

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Offers Community Improvement Grants with Support from The GIANT Company

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, in partnership with The GIANT Company, is pleased to announce the Healing the Planet Grant Program, a competitive grant for tax exempt organizations that aim to build environmental stewardship by connecting people and families to community green spaces, improve community green spaces, support environmental restoration efforts and support community gardens. Customers at GIANT, MARTIN'S and GIANT Heirloom Market stores were invited to simply round up their grocery purchase to the nearest dollar, from March through May, to donate to this Healing the Planet grant program.

Applications will be accepted for \$2,500, \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000. Interested applicants that have smaller projects that do not meet the minimum grant of \$2,500 are encouraged to expand the scope of their project or partner with another organization. Applications for less than \$2,500 will not be considered. A list of criteria for eligible projects can be found below. **Applications will be accepted online, June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021 at 5:00pm EST.** Visit <u>https://www.keeppabeautiful.org/grants-awards/healing-the-planet/</u> for grant details, timeline and application.

Grant Criteria:

- Eligible applicants include any tax-exempt organization, such as nonprofit organizations, conservation districts, schools, and local and county governments, etc.
- Applications must be for projects that benefit public-use and are within The GIANT Company's service areas in the following states and counties. There will be no exceptions.

Maryland: Alleghany, Carroll, Cecil and Washington counties.

Pennsylvania: Adams, Berks, Blair, Bucks, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Montour, Northampton, Perry, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Snyder, Union and York counties.

Virginia: Clarke, Culpeper, Frederick and Warren counties and Harrisonburg, Staunton, Waynesboro and Winchester cities.

West Virginia: Berkeley, Jefferson and Mineral counties.

"At The GIANT Company, we realize that to truly heal the planet, it's up to all of us to do our part," said Jessica Groves, social impact manager, The GIANT Company. "We're excited to offer this grant program with the help of our generous customers and look forward to working with Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful to beautify our communities for families to enjoy for years to come."

Eligible projects will connect people and families with community green spaces and could include park improvements, park builds, watershed restoration, recycling infrastructure and related programs, beautification and greening, community gardens, vacant lot restoration, outdoor classrooms, and tree plantings. Projects must be on public land or be for public use and benefit.

"Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful has supported community improvement initiatives and has encouraged community leadership, responsibility and a respect for the environment since 1990. The Healing the Planet Community Grants are an appropriate way to support the noble and necessary work being implemented to improve communities across the state and surrounding area," said Shannon Reiter, President of Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful. "Thank you to all of you who 'rounded up' at the register. Your generosity will directly impact communities by increasing and improving access to the great outdoors."

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, a state affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, Inc., has more than 30 years of experience in organizing volunteer-driven community improvement events.

Visit The GIANT Company's <u>website</u> to learn more about the company's sustainability programs. Visit <u>www.keeppabeautiful.org</u> for more information on programs or to find an event near you.

###

About Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful's mission is empowering Pennsylvanians to keep our communities clean and beautiful. Since 1990, Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its volunteers have removed over 148 million pounds of litter from Pennsylvania's roadways, greenways, parks, forests, and waterways. To learn more about Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, visit <u>www.keeppabeautiful.org</u>.

About The GIANT Company

The GIANT Company believes that no matter where or how, when meals happen, families connect, and when families connect meaningfully, good happens. Guided by its brand platform, For Today's Table®, the omni-channel retailer proudly serves millions of neighbors across Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia. A Great Place to Work™ certified company with more than 35,000 talented team members supporting nearly 190 stores, 132 pharmacies, 107 fuel stations, and over 150 online pickup hubs and grocery delivery service in hundreds of zip codes, The GIANT Company is changing the customer experience and connecting families for a better future. Founded in 1923 in Carlisle, Pa., The GIANT Company family of brands includes GIANT, MARTIN'S, GIANT Heirloom Market, GIANT Direct and MARTIN'S Direct. The GIANT Company is a company of Ahold Delhaize USA. For more information, visit the <u>GIANT</u> or <u>MARTIN'S</u> websites.