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## Youth Empowerment Project Receives \$10,000 Grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to Support Adult Literacy

**New Orleans, LA - May 19, 2017** - This week, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation awarded the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) a \$10,000 grant to support YEP's New Orleans Providing Literacy to All Youth (NOPLAY) program. This local grant award is part of more than \$7.5 million in grants awarded to nearly 900 schools, nonprofits and organizations across the 44 states that Dollar General serves.

"YEP applauds Dollar General's leadership in addressing the critical issue of adult literacy in the United States and we are grateful for the foundation's continued investment in the adult education programming we provide to adult learners in New Orleans, LA through our New Orleans Providing Literacy to All Youth (NOPLAY) program," said YEP Executive Director & Cofounder Melissa Sawyer.

The Youth Empowerment Project applied for a grant from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to help support NOPLAY's adult education and high school equivalency program. In 2016, YEP's NOPLAY program served approximately 600 young adult learners and 37 individuals were also able to earn their HiSETS (formerly GED) in the New Orleans area.

"Dollar General is excited to provide these organizations with funding to support literacy and education throughout the 44 states we serve," said Todd Vasos, Dollar General's CEO. "Providing these grants and supporting the communities we call home reflects our mission of *Serving Others* and it's rewarding to see the impact these funds have."

**About Youth Empowerment Project:** Founded in 2004, the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) is a non-profit which engages underserved young people through community-based education, mentoring and employment readiness programs. In 2016, YEP served 1201 young people through a total of 11 programs at six sites. To learn more visit: [www.youthempowermentproject.org](http://www.youthempowermentproject.org) or follow: @YEPNOLA

### ***About the Dollar General Literacy Foundation***

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education as part of the company's mission of *Serving Others* for nearly 25 years. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$135 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 8.6 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education. For more information about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation and its grant programs, visit [www.dgliteracy.org](http://www.dgliteracy.org).

### **About Dollar General Corporation**

Dollar General Corporation has been delivering value to shoppers for over 75 years through its mission of *Serving Others*. Dollar General helps shoppers Save time. Save money. Every day!® by offering products that are frequently used and replenished, such as food, snacks, health and beauty aids, cleaning supplies, basic apparel, housewares and seasonal items at low everyday prices in convenient neighborhood locations. With 13,429 stores in 44 states as of March 3, 2017, Dollar General is among the largest discount retailers in the United States. In addition to high quality private brands, Dollar General sells products from America's most-trusted brands such as Procter & Gamble, Kimberly-Clark, Unilever, Kellogg's, General Mills, Nabisco, Hanes, PepsiCo and Coca-Cola.