

**For Immediate Release**

## **United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona Receives \$5,000 Bayer Fund Grant for 2021 My Summer Library Program**

**Tucson, Ariz. (May 2021)** – United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona announced today that it has received a \$5,000 grant from the Bayer Fund to support its My Summer Library program. The grant will support the middle school science curriculum at Flowing Wells Junior High School and will positively impact 774 Flowing Wells students.

The funds will support the purchase of the Full Option Science System (FOSS) Curriculum for the 7th and 8th grades at Flowing Wells Junior High School. This curriculum was unanimously chosen by the science teachers as the optimum resource because it is aligned to new science standards, utilizes a hands-on inquiry approach, provides teachers with an assessment system, and provides support for English language learners. A fundamental goal of the science standards is to help students determine how the world works and to make sense of phenomena in the natural world using science and engineering practices. This curriculum will help Flowing Wells Unified School District middle school science teachers shift to three-dimensional science instruction.

“We are thrilled to receive this grant from our friends at Bayer Fund and we are grateful for their support,” said Tony Penn, president and CEO of United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona. “As we continue implementing our annual My Summer Library project, this grant will help us help them, over the longer-term, in their reading and comprehension of both English and science, a model that will produce more well-rounded students who will be more effectively equipped for success through 21<sup>st</sup> century learning strategies,” he concluded.

“Throughout the years, the grants given through Bayer Fund have helped strengthen our communities across the United States,” said Al Mitchell, president of Bayer Fund. “We are proud to be able to provide support to develop programs that help combat challenges such as food insecurity, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education, and support services to patients and families managing an illness or disease.”

In 2020, Bayer Fund awarded more than \$17 million to over 3,400 charitable and nonprofit organizations to help address essential needs in food and nutrition, STEM education and community development. Over the last five years, nonprofit organizations across the U.S. have received more than \$80 million.

### ***About United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona***

*United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona is building a thriving community by uniting people, ideas, and resources. We respond to our community’s needs, transforms individual lives, and brings long-lasting, systemic change to the community by focusing on the key, underlying issues. We fight for education, financial wellness, equality, and healthy communities for every person in Tucson and Southern Arizona from birth to end of life. Our role as community convener enables us to form strategic partnerships, mobilize the best resources and be the catalyst for needed, positive change. Learn more at [www.unitedwaytucson.org](http://www.unitedwaytucson.org)*

**About Bayer Fund**

*Bayer Fund, a philanthropic arm of Bayer, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education and community development projects. To learn more about Bayer Fund visit <https://www.fund.bayer.us>*

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