



## Dollar General Literacy Foundation

**RICHMOND, May 21, 2018** – This week, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation awarded The READ Center a \$9,000 grant to support adult literacy. This local grant award is part of more than \$8.3 million in grants awarded to more than 1,000 schools, nonprofits and organizations across the 44 states that Dollar General serves.

“The READ Center believes everyone needs and deserves a literate life. This funding will help us to work toward that goal,” said READ Center Executive Director Karen La Forge.

The READ Center is a community-based nonprofit organization helping adults with low literacy develop basic reading and communication skills so they can fulfill their roles as citizens, workers, and family members. This mission is accomplished by providing instruction through small classrooms and one-to-one tutoring. READ Center’s literacy instruction also includes everyday math and digital learning which are necessary to be truly literate in today’s world. More than 72,000 adults in metro Richmond lack basic literacy skills.

“We are honored to fund literacy and education initiatives, which support our mission of *Serving Others*,” said Todd Vasos, Dollar General’s CEO. “The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018 and a legacy of helping people improve their lives through literacy and education. Including this grant, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has provided more than \$154 million in funding to help more than 10 million people. We believe these programs can have a positive impact on the communities we serve and we look forward to continuing to partner with organizations dedicated to making a difference in the lives of millions of Americans.”

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than \$154 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 10 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

### About The READ Center

READ was founded as the Literacy Council of Metropolitan Richmond in 1982 by Altrusa International Richmond, Inc., to help adults develop basic communication skills and became a 501(c)(3) organization in 1984. Today, The READ Center serves more than 200 adults in metro Richmond through classroom instruction and one-to-one tutoring. Literacy is essential if we are to eradicate poverty, improve employment opportunities, stabilize housing and improve health. Without the abilities to read, to write, to do math, to solve problems and access and use technology, today’s adults will struggle to take part in the world around them and achieve their full potential. To learn more about The READ Center, visit [www.readcenter.org](http://www.readcenter.org)

### **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. Since 1993, the Foundation has awarded more than \$154 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 10 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy, a general education diploma or English proficiency. To learn more about the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, visit [www.dgliteracy.org](http://www.dgliteracy.org).

### **About Dollar General Corporation**

Dollar General Corporation has been delivering value to shoppers for more than 75 years. 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 everyday low prices in convenient neighborhood locations. Dollar General operated 14,609 stores in 44 states as of March 2, 2018. In addition to high-quality, private brands, Dollar General sells products from America’s most-trusted brands such as Clorox, Energizer, Procter & Gamble, Hanes, Coca-Cola, Mars, Unilever, Nestle, Kimberly-Clark, Kellogg’s, General Mills, and PepsiCo.

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