



February 26, 2012

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Gina Chaves
Director, Communications and Outreach
404.880.0054 x11
gina.chaves@toolbank.org

Atlanta Community ToolBank Receives \$5,000 Grant from The UPS Foundation

Atlanta, GA, Feb. 26, 2012 – From wheelbarrows to bolt cutters, Atlanta’s service groups will benefit from even more access to the Atlanta Community ToolBank this year, thanks in part to a generous \$5,000 grant from The UPS Foundation, the charitable arm of UPS (NYSE: UPS).

The Atlanta Community ToolBank, which recently celebrated 20 years of service, is the only nonprofit in Atlanta dedicated to equipping local groups with the tools needed to implement a diverse range of community improvement projects. The organization also serves as the model affiliate for ToolBank USA, the national nonprofit focused on replicating the ToolBank model nationwide.

The Atlanta Community ToolBank’s unique Tool Lending model supports thousands of local projects each year, helping hundreds of groups increase both frequency and scope of service. The program operates under a membership format, granting local schools, churches, neighborhood groups, and nonprofits of all types and sizes access to more than 178 different tool types, with hundreds to sometimes thousands of each tool in stock.

Funds from the UPS Foundation grant were utilized to support warehouse efficiency improvements, including the addition of in-house iPads, which now allow staff to serve nonprofit clients throughout the building.

Additionally, the ToolBank was able to meet a critical need by replacing 100 wheelbarrow tires and adding brand new mortar hoes and bolt cutters to the lending inventory.

“The ToolBank model works year-round to help local organizations meet community challenges head on,” stated Executive Director Patty Russart. “ToolBank leadership wisely recognizes the need to continuously evaluate our program delivery, ensuring we can grow and adapt to meet the true needs of our member agencies. Support from great partners like The UPS Foundation keeps our tools in the hands of local volunteers working hard in communities across greater Atlanta.”

Atlanta Community ToolBank Board Director and UPS Distribution Product Manager, Brad Sand, agrees, “As a partner in service to the charitable sector, ToolBank remains focused on our core mission – giving fellow nonprofits the practical tools needed to complete critical service initiatives, in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. The generous support of The UPS Foundation is funding key goals, which include integrating new technology and logistics to better serve our members, decreasing waste by extending the use of tools already in inventory, and adding new inventory as demand increases.”

Since 1991, more than 400,000 local volunteers have used ToolBank inventory to plant trees, remove graffiti, build playgrounds, complete home and facility repair projects, and much more.

“There are very few causes our tools have not touched,” Russart stated. “And those causes translate into urgent needs being met on a daily basis. We are extremely grateful to The UPS Foundation for recognizing the importance of our mission and helping us to continue supporting the good works of so many local service organizations.”

Established in 1951 and based in Atlanta, GA, The UPS Foundation identifies specific areas where its backing clearly impacts social issues. In support of this strategic approach, The UPS Foundation has identified the following focus areas for giving: nonprofit effectiveness, economic and global literacy, encouraging diversity, community safety, and environmental sustainability.

In 2010, The UPS Foundation distributed more than \$44.6 million worldwide through grants that benefit organizations or programs such as the Atlanta Community ToolBank and provide support for building stronger communities.

“The UPS Foundation is committed to funding impactful programs that make a meaningful difference in our communities – so we are proud to support the Atlanta Community ToolBank’s efforts to provide their fellow nonprofits and civic organizations with the tools needed to power progress,” said Ken Sternad, president of the UPS Foundation.

The majority of the ToolBank inventory has been donated by the community at large and gently used tool donations are always in high demand. Tools are maintained and repaired by loyal volunteers and even tool novices are encouraged to join the cause by participating in tool painting parties and organizational projects at the ToolBank warehouse.

Learn more about the ToolBank, and the people and projects they support, by visiting www.atlanta.toolbank.org or contact Gina Chaves, Director of Communications and Outreach at 404.880.0054 x11 or gina.chaves@toolbank.org.

About the Atlanta Community ToolBank

Founded in 1991, the Atlanta Community ToolBank operates the country's largest tool lending resource, focused on equipping local service groups to implement a diverse range of community improvement projects. With over 178 different tool types available year-round, the Atlanta Community ToolBank has equipped more than 400,000 volunteers to date and serves as the charter affiliate and model for ToolBank USA and the movement to replicate the ToolBank model nationwide. To learn more visit www.atlanta.toolbank.org.

About the UPS Foundation

Since its founding in 1907, UPS (NYSE: UPS) has built a legacy as a caring and responsible corporate citizen, supporting programs that provide long-term solutions to community needs. Founded in 1951, The UPS Foundation, which celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2011, is responsible for facilitating employee involvement in the local, national, and global communities. In 2010, UPS and its employees, active and retired, invested more than \$95 million in charitable giving around the world. The UPS Foundation can be found on the web at UPS.com/foundation. To get UPS news direct, visit pressroom.ups.com/RSS.

###