

## ***Freeport-McMoRan Announces 2016 Green Valley/Sahuarita Community Investment Fund Grant Awards***

**Green Valley, AZ (November 16, 2016)** – Recipients of the 2016 Green Valley/Sahuarita County Community Investment Fund process have been selected and six local programs and projects will receive a total of \$450,000 in grant funding at an awards ceremony to be held Thursday, November 17 at the Community Performing Arts Center at 3:30 p.m. The Green Valley/Sahuarita Investment Fund (CIF) was established in 2010 as part of Freeport-McMoRan's goal to support sustainable benefits for the communities in the areas where we operate and assist these communities in appropriate ways to ensure their self-sufficiency beyond the presence of our operations.

The CIF is administered by a committee comprised of community leaders selected by the Green Valley/Sahuarita Community Partnership Panel, a stakeholder engagement process established nine years ago to foster open and ongoing dialog and opportunities for the company and the community to work together to develop thoughtful solutions that address community issues.

Since 2010, the Green Valley/Sahuarita CIF has invested a total of more than \$3.7 million in locally-identified projects affecting change in the following community priority areas: community and economic development, community health and safety, education, and environment.

2016 Grant Recipients Include:

### **GVR Foundation**

**Project: [www.RetireArizona.org](http://www.RetireArizona.org) – \$44,000**

Real estate and tourism are key economic drivers in Green Valley. The development of [www.RetireArizona.org](http://www.RetireArizona.org) leverages collective resources of the community to position Green Valley as a premier destination for active adults and retirees with a goal to increase demand for homes and local business to assist in building economic viability.

### **Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation**

**Project – Adamson-Catino Trail – \$39,000**

Funds will allow Pima County to build a connector trail from the Anza-Abrego Trailhead to Canoa Preserve Park. The project brings together community partners to increase accessibility to public lands, making the park more available while creating a safer outdoor experience for the community as a whole.

### **Sahuarita Unified School District**

**Project – Discovery Education Techbooks Innovation – \$53,500**

Grant dollars will support a five-year partnership with Discovery Education to introduce Techbooks in all middle school science classrooms. The investment will have a direct positive impact on middle school students' science experiences through implementation of this 21st century program that will encourage both active engagement and cognitive investigation through the Techbook platform.

**Town of Sahuarita*****Project – Sahuarita Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Center - \$165,000***

The Sahuarita Advanced Manufacturing and Technology Center will establish a Small Business Innovation Research and Technology Incubator with the goal of providing the infrastructure necessary to nurture the growth and presence of a technology sector in the Sahuarita region. The project also seeks to leverage investment of federal dollars with a goal of diversifying the region's economy.

**University of Arizona Foundation – Santa Rita Experimental Range*****Project - Building STEM Capacity & Sustainability in Green Valley & Sahuarita Schools - \$70,500***

Funding will support two-years of hands-on, experimental STEM programming in partnership with Sahuarita Unified School District and Continental District. Additionally, the project engages the community in a local asset by including them in the work of the Santa Rita Experimental Range.

**Valley Assistance Services*****Project: SHIM PC – \$78,000***

Grant funds support the development of an evidenced-based fall risk intervention and care model using data collection and research in partnership with the University of Arizona. The project will engage seniors with their primary care provider to eliminate fall risk factors and fear of falling, allowing them freedom of activity while addressing a key driver of high cost, preventable medical care in the region.

"The key to sustainable communities is the development of a strong set of diverse assets including things like varied sources of economic revenue and jobs, quality schools that support local workforce development, preventative social and health services that reduce the higher cost of urgent hospital care and government services," said Tracy Bame, President of the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. "We appreciate and commend the efforts of the Green Valley/Sahuarita Investment Fund Committee as well as local nonprofits and government, academic institutions and citizens, to consider the kinds of community projects that will best support the needs of the area and the goal to achieve greater sustainability."

Additional information about Freeport-McMoRan community investments and programs may be obtained by visiting [FreeportInMyCommunity.com](http://FreeportInMyCommunity.com) or by contacting Collette Brown at [cbrown@fmi.com](mailto:cbrown@fmi.com).