



GULF COAST GROWTH VENTURES

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GCGV PROJECT COMPANIES TO DONATE \$90,000 FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITIES

Portland, TX – The Gulf Coast Growth Ventures (GCGV) Project today announced \$90,000 in contributions to local environmental charities for 2018 through grants provided by ExxonMobil Foundation and SABIC. The grants are part of GCGV’s Good Neighbor Program, which includes a four-fold focus on quality of life, health and safety, education and workforce development, and environmental stewardship.

Recipient organizations include the National Audubon Society for their work to preserve local Whooping Crane habitats, the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program for their ongoing work in the region, the Texas State Aquarium for their animal rehabilitation programs, the University of Texas Marine Science Institute (UTMSI) to help in Hurricane Harvey recovery, and the Texas A&M University Corpus Christi Harte Research Institute for their oyster recycling habitat project.

“Each of these organizations conducts important environmental research and recovery efforts for the Coastal Bend region,” said GCGV Venture Executive Rob Tully. “Partnering with these groups is just one way we are fulfilling our commitment to be a good steward of the environment.”

“Both ExxonMobil and SABIC are industry leaders in working with communities to meet local needs, and our Good Neighbor Program is this project’s commitment to do so here – even before we have an operating plant,” said Mohammed Al-Wakeel, General Manager, US Growth Projects, SABIC.

Brian Trusty, National Audubon Society Central Flyway Vice President, said, “The National Audubon Society is pleased to work with ExxonMobil in protecting critical habitat for endangered and threatened birds on the Texas coast, including the iconic Whooping Crane. We look forward to future collaborations as they emerge.”

Ray Allen, Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program Executive Director, said, “This donation will help the Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program continue our efforts to connect classrooms and communities to nature at the Nueces Delta Preserve. CBEP is thankful for the contributions from the ExxonMobil Foundation and SABIC and we look forward to continuing a partnership that seeks to protect the bays and estuaries of the Coastal Bend.”

Tom Schmid, Texas State Aquarium President & CEO, said, “For nearly three decades ExxonMobil has supported our mission here at TSA. From their original gift to help build the first aquarium building, to

support for our environmental education programs, this gift continues their legacy of support. We are also very grateful for the wonderful commitment from SABIC; we are excited to have them in our community, and we are thankful for their generous support. During this very active year for our Wildlife Rescue and Recovery program, this gift comes at a particularly important time for us. We look forward to working with the SABIC and ExxonMobil teams as we continue to engage people with animals, inspire appreciation of our seas, and support wildlife conservation.”

Gail Sutton, COO of the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and a founding partner of the “Sink Your Shucks” Oyster Recycling Program, said, “With the help of community partners, we’ve returned more than 1 million pounds of oyster shells to local waters to rebuild 14 acres of oyster reef. Contributions like this one from Gulf Coast Growth Ventures keep our program and our reef growing. This recycling program works because it's simple and you get results quickly. We can take that oyster right from a customer’s plate back to the bay, rebuilding for the next generation.”

Dr. Robert Dickey, Director of the University of Texas Marine Science Institute, said, “We are pleased and grateful to the ExxonMobil Foundation and SABIC to receive this \$10,000 gift to support the UTMSI mission and vision for research, education and public outreach.”

	ExxonMobil Foundation	SABIC
Texas State Aquarium	\$20,000	\$20,000
CBEP	\$10,000	\$10,000
Audubon Society	\$5,000	\$5,000
UTMSI	\$5,000	\$5,000
Hart Institute	\$5,000	\$5,000
TOTAL	\$45,000	\$45,000

GCGV is a project proposed by ExxonMobil and SABIC to build a plastics manufacturing plant in the Gregory-Portland area. The multi-billion dollar proposed investment would create thousands of jobs and stimulate economic growth in the region. The project, if completed, is expected to have 6,000 jobs at peak construction and, once operational, over 600 permanent jobs with an average salary of \$90,000 per year.

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