

## Give Back Brands presents Mother-to-Mother with \$10,000 grant

By NOREEN HYSLOP  
Managing Editor

When Karen McCarver Berry served as the first-ever director of the Regional Healthcare Foundation's Mother-to-Mother program several years ago, she couldn't have imagined how the program would blossom into what it is today. Berry developed the program locally which links young mothers with mentors and promotes further education and a productive and healthy lifestyle. Recently, the program was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Give Back Brands Foundation, and Berry, who retired several years ago, was at the Foundation offices to witness the presentation.

The proposal for the \$10,000 grant to the Mother-to-Mother program developed when an individual with roots in Dexter recognized the need back in her hometown and stepped forward to set the wheels in motion.

Judy McCarver Heise resides in Connecticut, but is a Dexter native, and currently serves as a director on the board of the Give Back Brands Foundation. She is a cousin to Karen Berry, and therefore had firsthand knowledge of the M2M program. Heise has devoted a lifetime to volunteerism and has spearheaded efforts in a multitude of charitable endeavors.

"The Give Back Brands Foundation," Heise explained while visiting Dexter recently, "was established in 2011 by Paul West, a seasoned beauty

industry executive."

West is a person, Heise said, who was intent on "giving back." Inspired by the model of the well-known food brand which donates its profits to charity, West applied a similar model to the beauty industry and established the for-profit celebrity fragrance company Give Back Brands LLC (GBB) in August 2010. By requiring donation of GBB's net profits to charity, West created a unique way for fragrance consumers to give back through their purchasing decisions.

"His timing was impeccable," related Heise. "He was able to sign on Justin Bieber as he set up the business and established a fragrance in his name, and we all know how that skyrocketed."

Linda Dowdy is a Mother-to-Mother facilitator and, as it happens, also graduated with Berry from Malden High School. When the board at Give Back Brands Foundation was considering the grant, Heise contacted Dowdy and asked two things.

"I needed to be sure the Mother-to-Mother program did not operate under the auspice of the state of Missouri, and I wanted to be assured that the donation would be placed directly into the hands of the local program and not an administrative entity," Heise said. "I was assured it would be, and we all agreed to go ahead with this grant. Our foundation's mission is to empower our children through education, leadership training, and di-



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**Shown from left are Karen McCarver Berry, Judy McCarver Heise, RHF Executive Director Lisa Thrower and Mother-to-Mother Program Coordinator Yvonne Hall as a \$10,000 grant is presented to the local Mother-to-Mother program.**

verse opportunity. This was a perfect fit."

Yvonne Hall, Mother-to-Mother Program Coordinator, and Regional Healthcare Foundation Executive Director Lisa Thrower were on hand to take Berry and Heise on a tour of the foundation's offices during their recent visit, which included a tour of the Mother-to-Mother offices and boutique.

"When I began," recalled Berry, "we didn't even have an office. So, to see how this program has expanded and to learn how many young women's lives have been improved through this effort is very rewarding."

The Foundation expressed their gratitude to Judy Heise and the Give Back Brands Foundation for this tremendous grant. "It will be utilized locally in our continued work with young mothers who wish to improve their lives through education," Thrower stated.

*City of Dexter Missouri .  
2012 Annual Water Quality Report  
(Consumer Confidence Report)  
ID No. M04010216*

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made to provide safe drinking water. *Atencion! Este informe contiene informacion muy importante. Traduscalo o prequentele a alguien que lo entienda bien.* [translated: This report contains very important information. Translate or ask someone who understands this very well.]

We are very pleased to provide this *Annual Water Quality Report*. The purpose of this report is to inform you about the quality of water and services that we deliver to you every day. We are committed to providing each of our users with good quality drinking water. Dexter has two water treatment plants, nine supply wells, and six storage tanks. Dexter's only source of drinking water is ground water obtained from wells. Many wells have been installed by the City over the years; however, many are no longer in use and have been capped and abandoned. Wells #12, #15, #16, #17, #18, #19, #20 and #21 are active. The wells were constructed in accordance with Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulations and guidelines. There is no record of total coliform bacteria or fecal coliform bacteria contamination in untreated (well water) samples. None of the wells have a history of turbidity problems and there has been no known or suspected outbreak of *Giardia* or other pathogenic organism associated with surface water attributed to any well. There have been no significant or relatively rapid shifts in water characteristics from any well. The well water is made acceptable for public use by iron & manganese removal and disinfection at Dexter's two treatment plants. The raw water at both plants is aerated, clarified, filtered, and chlorinated before being pumped to consumers. All the wells take water from the McNairy (Ripley) Formation sands. The water is naturally of very high quality and free from harmful chemicals and bacteria; however, it does contain dissolved iron and manganese. Iron and manganese can result in staining of laundry so these chemicals are removed by our treatment processes.

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources conducted a source water assessment of our source water to potential contaminants. This process involved the establishment of source water area delineations for each well and then a contaminant inventory was performed within those delineated areas to assess potential threats to each source. Assessment maps and summary information sheets are available on the internet at <http://maproom.missouri.edu/swipmaps/pwssid.htm>. To access the maps for your water system you will need the State assigned identification code which is printed at the top of this report. The Source Water Inventory Project maps and information sheets provide a foundation upon which a more comprehensive source water protection plan can be developed.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting in the plumbing for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you can have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead/index.cfm>.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some