



NEWS RELEASE

CenturyLink Foundation programs drive more than \$7.5 million in 2016

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MONROE, La., March 29, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- **CenturyLink, Inc.** (NYSE: CTL) knows that connecting consumers and businesses to the power of the digital world can change lives, and help strengthen the communities it serves. That's why CenturyLink and its employees contributed more than \$7.5 million across 44 states in 2016 through the CenturyLink **Clarke M. Williams** Charitable Foundation programs.

Annual Teachers and Technology grant program

The Teachers and Technology program awards grants of up to \$5,000 per project to help provide technology equipment to enhance learning in pre-K - 12th grade classrooms. In 2016, CenturyLink received more than 1,100 grant applications and awarded grants to 314 classroom-based projects in 33 states.

Annual CenturyLink Backpack Buddies Food Drive

In the first two weeks of June each year, employees and community members come together to help fight hunger in CenturyLink's communities. The Clarke M. Williams Foundation provides matching funds of up to \$1 million based on contributions made through the drive. Since 2009, the drive has resulted in more than 56 million pounds of food for food banks across the country. In 2016, employees and community members in 33 states donated nearly \$700,000 through this drive to help fight hunger in their communities.

Matching Time Grants

CenturyLink encourages employees to volunteer in their communities. The Matching Time Grant Program honors those commitments by awarding \$500 grants twice each year to nonprofit organizations where our employees volunteer. Employees can submit grant applications after completing 40 volunteer hours at the nonprofit. In 2016, more than \$300,000 was awarded to nonprofits in 38 states representing over 50,000 volunteer hours performed by CenturyLink employees.

Annual Employee Giving Campaign

As a Global Corporate Leader with United Way Worldwide, CenturyLink runs a nationwide, month-long employee giving campaign each year. Employees can give to qualifying nonprofit organizations of their choice through payroll deduction or other methods, and the CenturyLink Foundation provides a 50 percent match to the local United Way in their area. In 2016, the campaign resulted in total giving of more than \$4.2 million to local United Ways and other nonprofit organizations in communities across 41 states.

About the CenturyLink Foundation

CenturyLink's vision is to improve the lives of our customers by connecting them to the power of the digital world. CenturyLink extends this vision through the CenturyLink Clarke M. Williams Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to contributing to endeavors that improve the well-being and overall quality of life for people throughout CenturyLink's communities. Named after CenturyLink's founder Clarke M. Williams, the Foundation is endowed by CenturyLink to support community initiatives that encourage our employees to use their time, talents and resources to strengthen the communities in which they live and work.

To view the original version on PR Newswire, visit:<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/centurylink-foundation-programs-drive-more-than-75-million-in-2016-300430808.html>

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