# FALL 2020 FCA4DETROIT QUARTERLY



# DETROITERS BEGIN WORK

Meet Benny Wilkinson, one of our new FCA team members from Detroit: "The new things you can learn and the possibility for growth at a place like FCA seem limitless."

**INSIDE THIS EDITION** 

# DETROITERS BEGIN WORK

Meet FCA's new team members and our plant manager

## BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE

FCA Foundation helps students connect to the world

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Friends of Parkside provides residents with basic necessities





# **Detroiters Begin Work**

Meet FCA's New Team Members and Mack Assembly's Plant Manager

Benny Wilkinson and Bernard Callaway are among the thousands of Detroiters who have joined the FCA family in recent months. Both men are currently working at the Sterling Heights Assembly Plant building the Ram 1500 while they wait to fill production operator jobs at the new Detroit Assembly Complex – Mack plant.



"I wanted to join FCA because of the opportunities, the experience and the diversity of the people," Benny said. "The new things you can learn and the possibility for growth at a place like FCA seem limitless."



"I wanted to join FCA because Detroit is the motor city and I wanted a job in the auto industry," Bernard said. "I'm ready for the next level of auto making. I'm ready to see cars getting fully assembled and hitting the road. That's what excites me."

#### Plant Manager Drives Improvement

Michael Brieda, the new plant manager at Detroit Assembly Complex – Mack, is driven to keep improving. That drive will be critical as Michael, a 27-year FCA employee, takes on his newest assignment – launching the first new assembly plant in Detroit in nearly 30 years and production of two new Jeep® products that will help fuel the brand's expansion.

Named plant manager in May 2019, Michael's appointment came just three months after FCA announced it would invest \$1.6 billion to convert the former Mack Avenue Engine Complex into a new assembly site for a new three-row, full-size Jeep SUV and next-generation Jeep Grand Cherokee, along with their electrified models, creating 3,850 new jobs.

"With a project of this magnitude there will be challenges, but I'm confident that we are putting the right team in place, including many people from the surrounding neighborhoods, who recognize the role they will play in creating something unique and important in the history of FCA and the city of Detroit."

#### **Fostering Success**

As a plant manager, Michael sees his role as a collaborative leader, supporting his team members by working with them to collectively address issues and creating an environment that allows people to be successful.

"Our team members are the most important people in the plant. I view them as the buying customers of our products and my job is to do whatever is needed to support them." Michael said. While the majority of the Mack production team will be new FCA employees, several hundred former engine builders will be returning to support the assembly of the new vehicles. Michael knows it will take everyone, regardless of their background or experience, to make the plant run seamlessly.



As Michael prepares to launch production at the new plant in the first quarter of 2021, his message to his team is simple:

"We're going to use the experience and diversity of our employees to fuel a new culture and create an environment where we enjoy coming to work every day," Michael said. "I want this to be a place where we celebrate our successes, take an active role in delivering for our customers and finish our careers knowing that we have collectively achieved something remarkable."

To take a video tour of Detroit Assembly Complex – Mack, visit

www.FCA4Detroit.com



# **Rebuilding Detroit's Tree Canopy**

Have you ever driven a tree-lined street, where the leaves and branches come together over the road, creating a tunnel of color in the fall and a canopy of green in the summer? This idyllic scenery is known as an urban tree canopy; it's composed of layers of tree branches, leaves and stems that provide coverage of the ground when viewed from above.

Urban tree canopies provide numerous benefits to communities and to the environment. They reduce air pollution and summer peak temperatures, provide wildlife habitats and neighborhood beautification, which can increase property values, and improve social ties among neighbors and within the community.

However, studies throughout the United States show that most communities are losing tree canopy due to a range of threats. So, we're planting more than 1,100 new trees to help revive the tree canopy for the east side of Detroit where our new Mack Assembly Plant is being built, an area known to be well below the national average for urban canopy.

We've already planted 400 trees on our site and, early next year, we'll begin working with residents to identify planting locations in the neighborhood with the guidance from our longtime conservation partner Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC) to help drive long-term success.

Thanks to a USDA Forest Service grant, WHC launched its newest initiative "Across Fence Lines: Connecting Corporate America to Communities Through Public-Private Forestry Programs," which includes a focus on the best approaches to connect corporate conservation to local, state and national canopy and forestry goals.

Creating these green buffers will also help enhance air quality, reduce energy usage and stormwater runoff, and improve the resale value and aesthetics of the neighborhood.



According to data from the U.S. Forest Service, planting 1,100 native trees can result in more than \$40,000 value per year in annual environmental and energy savings benefits for local residents.



Photo credit: No Kid Hungry

## FCA Serves 1.2 Million Meals to Detroit Children

As the coronavirus pandemic closed schools earlier this year, many kids were at risk of missing the daily school meals upon which they rely. Since that time, FCA and the Chrysler brand worked to overdeliver on their commitment to provide children food. Through September, more than 1.2 million meals were provided to children, families and seniors in Detroit through FCA's partnership with local non-profit organizations. Please see list to the right.

Overall, FCA and the Chrysler brand provided more than 15 million meals across North America.

Alkebu-lan Village Auntie Na's Village Capuchin Soup Kitchen Cass Community Social Services Destined for Greatness Detroit Public School Foundation to support Detroit Public Schools Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries (DRMM) **Detroit Youth Choir** Downtown Boxing Gym Youth Program Focus: HOPE Forgotten Harvest Friends of Parkside **Gleaners Community Food** Bank of SE MI Horatio Williams Foundation Latin Americans for Social and Economic Development (LASED) Matrix Human Services Project Healthy Community Soldiers' Angels Tarence Wheeler Foundation The Salvation Army (Detroit - Conner Creek and Warren) YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit Youth Community Agency



## FCA Foundation Helps Students Bridge Digital Divide

FCA Foundation, the charitable arm of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, joined a coalition of Detroit's leading businesses and philanthropic organizations that invested \$23 million in a program to bridge the digital divide for 51,000 Detroit students.

The program, called Connected Futures, placed a computer with high-speed LTE internet connectivity, along with technical support, into the hands of every Detroit Public Schools Community District (DPSCD) K-12 student.

FCA Foundation is supporting Connected Futures with a \$500,000 grant to the Detroit Public Schools Foundation. The grant directs support to students at Southeastern High School, Carstens Academy of Aquatic Science at Remus, Hutchinson Elementary-Middle School and Nichols Elementary-Middle School.

According to the program's organizers, Connected Futures is the first step in addressing digital inequity within the City of Detroit – an issue that has been exacerbated as students have been forced to learn from home as a result of the COVID-19 crisis.



"This has been part of our long-term plan for DPSCD for three years as we have invested in technology at schools, but these investments did not impact the lack of connectivity at home," said Dr. Nikolai Vitti, DPSCD superintendent. "The ability for our students to access the educational platforms that they use during the school day from home will elevate their learning year-round, not just during this crisis."

# THANK

### Minority- and Womenowned Companies

As construction wraps up at our new Mack Assembly Plant, we want to thank our diverse-owned businesses - some of whom are based in Detroit - that supported its development and continually went above and beyond to provide the highest quality products and services.

Blaze Brix LS Brinker Devon Industrial Group Stenco Ideal Contracting Indiana Bridge Hoover Wells Aristeo Construction W.H. Cannon Seaway

FCA has a long-standing commitment to building a diverse supply base and growing wealth for minority, women and veteran business owners throughout our value chain.

To learn more about our commitment to supplier diversity, visit supplierdiversityfca.com



# COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Friends of Parkside: COVID-19 Support

By Zachary Rowe, Executive Director

In response to the impact of COVID-19 on our public housing community, the Villages at Parkside has provided residents with basic necessities, such as food, household items, financial/unemployment assistance, energy assistance, and access to internet/technology.

Through the bi-weekly Parkside Food Pantry, we have served more than 1,360 households. Families receive vegetables, fruits, grains, protein foods, dairy products and cleaning supplies.

Our supporters include FCA, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, University of Michigan Poverty Solutions and Save-A-Lot (Warren/Conner). Additionally, we are a proud partner agency with the Gleaners' Community Food Bank.

To learn more visit friendsofparkside.org

