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Community Foundation for Mississippi Receives \$3M Grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to Support Better Together Commission Efforts to Improve Student Outcomes
Community Foundation to Help Enhance Community Engagement Efforts and Foster Collaboration with Diverse Stakeholders

(FEBRUARY 22, 2018) JACKSON, Miss. – The Community Foundation for Mississippi and the Better Together Commission are pleased to announce a \$3 million grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support ongoing efforts to improve student outcomes in the Jackson Public School District (JPS).

“One of the primary roles of the Community Foundation is that of a facilitator and convener for people seeking to transform their community,” said Jane Alexander, president and CEO of the Community Foundation for Mississippi. “The nature of the work the commission is tasked with requires intentional and intensive relationship building and collaboration, and we are excited about the opportunity to bring our experience serving the community and connecting people to do good work.”

The 18-month grant to the Community Foundation provides administrative support to the commission, while also supporting robust communications and community engagement, ensuring full transparency with the commission’s work and the inclusion of all JPS stakeholders in the process.

“The support from the Kellogg Foundation will help move some critical pieces of our work forward, and the Community Foundation for Mississippi’s standing as a trusted partner will help us reach a broader cross-section of the Jackson community,” said commission member Paheadra Robinson. “We have already learned a lot through our listening sessions and public meetings, and we plan to continue soliciting feedback and input throughout this process.”

The commission will meet next at 4:00 pm on March 1 at the Margaret Walker Alexander Library, located at 2525 Robinson Road. At this time, the commission will report out on the learnings from the December listening tours and recent telephone poll, as well as other community engagement efforts. Future meetings will be held the last Thursday of the month from 4:00 pm to 5:45 pm at the Margaret Walker Alexander Library.

For more information on the Community Foundation for Mississippi, contact Jane Alexander at jane@cfgj.org. For more information on the Better Together Commission, including details on the March 1 meeting, send an email to bettertogetherms@gmail.com.

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About the Community Foundation for Mississippi

The Community Foundation for Mississippi helps charitable donors establish permanent giving funds that reflect their interests, while also making a long-term, positive impact on the

community. The Foundation also serves the nonprofit community by managing and growing their endowments, and offering best practice management advice.

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal pioneer, Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special emphasis is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. WKKF priority places in the U.S. are in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; and internationally, are in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.