



News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Bashas' says 'Thanks A Million' to local charities**

Hometown grocer donates \$289,000 to schools, churches & nonprofits

**(CHANDLER, Ariz.)**—June 16, 2006—Hometown grocer Bashas' Supermarkets finished its 2005-2006 Thanks A Million for Friends and Neighbors fundraising program by donating more than a quarter of a million dollars to local schools, churches and nonprofits.

Thanks A Million helps Bashas' shoppers raise money for up to three of their favorite charities. During the '05-'06 Thanks A Million program, which ran from Sept. 1 through March 31, Bashas' contributed 1 percent of each participant's shopping dollars to the nonprofits they designated, with the maximum donation being \$2,500. Seventeen groups from across the state reached that \$2,500 maximum donation, including organizations in Apache Junction, Bagdad, Chandler, Fountain Hills, Green Valley, Kingman, Mesa, Page, Phoenix, Sahuarita, Scottsdale, Tucson and Needles, Calif.

"Bashas' Thanks A Million program is the perfect example of how local communities can support organizations they care about," said Mike Proulx, Bashas' President and COO. "Giving back to the community has been a part of Bashas' business philosophy from the start, and Thanks A Million is a way for our customers to partner with us in that effort."

This year's Thanks A Million included two brand-new features to its program, including tips on how to maximize a fundraising and incentives for groups actively participating.

Thanks A Million is available at all Bashas' and Bashas' Diné stores in Arizona, plus the Bashas' stores in Needles, Calif. and Crownpoint, N.M. For more information about the Thanks A Million program, visit <http://www.bashas.com/charity>.

*Bashas' Supermarkets is the largest family-owned supermarket in Arizona and the 7<sup>th</sup> largest employer in the state. Bashas' is the 15<sup>th</sup> largest privately held supermarket chain in the nation. For more information, visit [www.bashas.com](http://www.bashas.com).*

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**(See attached sheet for full listing of \$2,500 earning groups.)**



**The 17 Thanks A Million groups to earn a \$2,500 donation were:**

- St. George's Catholic Church (Apache Junction)
- Bagdad Elementary (Bagdad)
- Desert Springs Assembly of God (Chandler)
- ICAN (Chandler)
- Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church (Fountain Hills)
- American Heartline (Green Valley)
- Kingman Apostolic Church (Kingman)
- Mountain View High School (Mesa)
- Needles High School (Needles)
- Page High School (Page)
- Eckankar Assi (Phoenix)
- Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 1958 (Phoenix)
- Paradise Valley Baptist Church (Phoenix)
- Valle Verde Rotary Club (Sahuarita)
- Boosters – Saguaro High (Scottsdale)
- Brotherhood of Man Desert Chapel (Scottsdale)
- Esperero Canyon Middle School (Tucson)