



NEWS RELEASE

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Cleveland Better Home Town Jr. Board receives \$1500 Grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation

Cleveland, Georgia (November 2, 2009) – At a special reception on Friday honoring 11 year old Tyler Dorsey’s volunteer work and his recent state award for “Most Valuable Volunteer in the State,” the Cleveland Better Home Town Jr. Board was presented with a check for \$1500 in support of the “Tribute to Public Safety Heroes” monument the kids are working on.

Earlier in the week the White County Board of Commissioners gave tentative approval to the Jr. Board to move forward with plans to erect a monument in front of the White County Courthouse. An architectural design is what the Commissioners have asked for before giving the green light to build. The monument will also include an artifact from the World Trade Center. In addition to honoring local public safety heroes, the children want to honor the memory of the heroes who lost their lives on September 11th trying to save the innocent victims in the building that day.

Barry Killian, Manager of the Cleveland Wal-Mart store heard about the project and worked with the Executive Director of Cleveland Better Home Town to request a grant from the Wal-Mart Foundation. Nathan Pruitt and Kathy Pendley, both managers for the Cleveland Wal-Mart made the presentation to the Cleveland Better Home Town Jr. Board. “We are honored to support this important project to honor our public safety heroes and we are proud of you kids for recognizing how important they are to our community.” Tyler Dorsey, Jr. Board Chairman accepted the check. Garrison Baker, Chairman of Cleveland Better Home Town also said how proud he was of the Jr. Board. “These kids really care about Cleveland and White County and just want to make it a little better,” he said. “Maria is showing them true leadership and I’m delighted to see them learning how important it is to build relationships, which is what leadership is all about.

Almost 100 people attended the reception at the First Baptist Church to honor Tyler. Pinky Black, Garrison Baker and Maria Flynn hosted the event. Tyler’s fellow Jr. Board members, Aida Alonso and Lindsey Hutchinson were also on hand. Mayor Donald Stanley and the entire City Council came out to show their support of Tyler. “I’m amazed at the work this young man is doing. We are all proud of Tyler, after all these are the future leaders of our community and we need to support what they are doing,” said Mayor Stanley.

Cleveland Better Home Town is a nationally accredited Main Street – Better Home Town Program. The focus of the program is to revitalize the downtown business area and to help the business to create a vibrant downtown and a sense of place for the community. The organizations next project is producing the Christmas in the Mountains event on December 5th on the Cleveland Square. If you would like to help support the “Tribute to Public Safety Heroes” Monument call 706-969-3336 or visit: www.clevelandbetterhometown.org.

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