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Note: A photo is attached. Casey is pictured in the beekeeper suit.

**Current Young Professionals Network announces
Greater Green Bay SOUP recipient**

Green Bay, Wis. - (Nov. 7, 2019) - Current Young Professionals' community partnership committee announces Project Urban Beehive as the recipient of the micro-grant funds contributed at last night's Greater Green Bay SOUP (**S**upport **O**f **U**rban **P**rojects) dinner.

Attendees contributed more than \$1,300 at the event held at The Riverside Ballroom. The Urban Beehive project is focused on installing an urban beehive on the top of the far north development in the Rail Yard Innovation District on North Broadway. The intent is to support and care for two hives of bees, having identified what the hives need to ensure prosperous and healthy bees.

The purchase and installation of the two beehives represents the first undertaking in the City of Green Bay, following in the paths of communities such as Milwaukee and Chicago that have embraced and are experiencing the benefits of having urban beehives.

"The bees will help promote a sustainable downtown and serve a crucial role in the health of new native perennials that On Broadway will plant in the district's planter bowls and boxes in summer 2020," said Tawny Casey, organizer for the project as well as marketing manager for On Broadway.

The grant funds will allow for the purchase of bees and hives, training of On Broadway's key volunteers to handle the preventative care and maintenance care of the bees and other care as needed.

"I've always been passionate about bees and even tried to start my own beehive years ago," said Casey. "I talked to my co-workers, and it just happened to align very well with what On Broadway wants to do for the district regarding sustainability."

The goal is to create a self-sustaining ecosystem in the future that requires minimal time, effort and funding. In addition, Casey hopes to educate people on how critical and important bees are to our everyday lives including through programming to benefit local schools and universities.

Casey said she couldn't have asked for a better partner than DDL Holdings, the owners of the Rail Yard Innovation District, as they've been very supportive of the project.

"When I presented the idea to the team at the Rail Yard, they were completely supportive of having the first urban beehive in the city," said Casey. "It's been very special to work with people who see the vision of what the project can be."

Greater Green Bay SOUP is a forum through which community members can share their ideas for how to enhance the quality of life for residents in our communities. Dinner is served at the forum and a micro-grant is awarded to one individual/organization from funds collected at the forum.

To date, Greater Green Bay SOUP events have given nearly \$10,000 in micro-grants to community causes.

More information about Greater Green Bay SOUP can be found at greatergbc.org/soup.

Established in 2002, Current Young Professionals is a program of the Greater Green Bay Chamber. For more information, visit greatergbc.org/current.

Established in 1882, the mission of the Greater Green Bay Chamber is to strengthen member businesses, enhance economic and workforce development, and improve the quality of life in our community and region. For more information, call 920.593.3400 or visit greatergbc.org.

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