



## *News Release*

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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**RISING VOLUNTEER HOURS AND DONATIONS MARKED**  
**BENDIX'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS IN 2022**

*Grants, Sponsorships, and Donations Totaled More than \$1 Million to Community Initiatives,  
and Employees Logged Close to 9,000 Volunteer Hours*

**AVON, Ohio – March 9, 2023** – Bendix and Bendix team members did more for their communities during 2022 than in previous years by awarding upwards of \$1 million in grants and donations and logging close to 9,000 volunteer hours toward a wider variety of projects.

The organization ascribes to a philosophy of corporate responsibility focusing on social cohesion, underserved youth, and families in its communities. This support prioritizes projects linked to education, the environment, health and wellness, and social issues. It takes the form of financial support through grants, sponsorships, and donations, as well as volunteer efforts from employees across the company's North American locations. To that end, Bendix also recognizes and rewards employees who contribute their time and resources toward these causes.

Bendix's corporate giving programs include identifying local opportunities for sponsorships and/or volunteer opportunities, recognizing team members' volunteer efforts, hosting volunteer events, and awarding grant support to a wide variety of community initiatives that employees have embraced.

During 2022, Bendix awarded \$388,454 in grants, sponsorships, and donations from the company and its employees to multiple diverse nonprofit organizations and community initiatives in the areas where Bendix operates in North America.

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“The community support we offered our communities in 2022 was exceptional, with participation numbers up almost 10% from the previous year,” said Maria Gutierrez, Bendix senior director, environmental, social, and governance (ESG). “We saw employees dedicating more volunteer hours to more projects in more ways. Team members selected a wide cross-section of projects that fit with our community support goals. We volunteered in person and virtually, and it was clear that teams were going above and beyond. At a corporate level and individually, we donated funds but also much more. We gave shoes, toys, food, school supplies, and clothing. We gave blood during blood drives, made blankets, and built homes and bunk beds. Support teams gained new members, and they shared a wealth of ideas. It was a fantastic year for Bendix’s support to our communities.”

Besides its local outreach efforts, Bendix also provided ground-level support for the corporate mission of Knorr-Bremse Global Care North America Inc. (KBGCNA), its parent company’s philanthropic organization in North America. The organization awards extensive and long-term community enrichment grants centered in the surrounding communities of Knorr-Bremse’s three largest North American companies: Avon, Ohio-based Bendix; Westminster, Maryland-based Knorr Brake Company; and Watertown, New York-based New York Air Brake LLC. As with Bendix contributions, KBGCNA awards are oriented toward social engagement and educating youth and young adults, with company representatives from the three North American brands lending assistance by way of team members who champion the initiatives from start to finish.

During 2022, KBGCNA disbursed \$616,095 in grant funding for projects and initiatives. This funding, combined with other targeted Bendix programs and initiatives, resulted in community effort funding totaling \$1,004,549.

### **Generous Donations of Funds and Time**

Two major facets of Bendix support efforts continued to stem from the company’s employee-driven Local Care teams, which identify community-specific initiatives large and small to sponsor at each location, and Bendix’s companywide Get Involved! program, where employees submit projects for consideration to earn up to \$3,500 in corporate grant support.

Of the \$388,454 that Bendix contributed to all initiatives, a little over half took the form of corporate grants and sponsorships to local nonprofits or matching funds. More than a third represented Bendix grants from the company’s Get Involved! program, and approximately 10% were employee donations and fundraising efforts. In addition to these donations, Bendix team

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members volunteered close to 9,000 service hours to company-approved or -sponsored projects.

Bendix's Local Care teams – comprised of employee volunteers – are charged with ensuring each location in North America hosts one or more corporate-sponsored volunteer events, sponsors additional events in the community, and connects Bendix employees at all locations with a range of volunteer opportunities to consider supporting.

Local Care teams awarded \$216,500 in donations and sponsorships to a variety of organizations and initiatives in the communities near Bendix facilities in Acuña, Mexico; Avon, Ohio; Bowling Green, Kentucky; Hanover, Pennsylvania, the home of Bendix subsidiary R.H. Sheppard Co. Inc.; and Huntington, Indiana.

The teams also facilitated volunteer opportunities at each Bendix location, helping to coordinate a total of 8,822 volunteer hours logged by employees during 2022, an increase of close to 9% from 2021. Participation was strong across all locations, including the Avon headquarters, where 25% of employees volunteered for one or more initiatives.

These opportunities ranged from larger corporate events to smaller initiatives, both at Bendix facilities and within nearby communities. For example, employees represented Bendix at job expos, community parades, and 5K races; participated in park and beach cleanups; volunteered at animal shelters; staffed science fairs; and hosted STEM days both at Bendix and at local schools. In Acuña, employees constructed homes in collaboration with Casas por Cristo, while in Avon, employees gathered to build bunk beds for families in need in collaboration with Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

Employees also donated financially to a wide variety of company-sponsored fundraisers. Approximately \$38,787 in employee donations went to help organizations and initiatives such as United Way, scholarship funds, and disaster relief collections.

### **Company Awards Nine Get Involved! Grants**

Separately, Bendix's Get Involved! program awarded \$133,159 in grants to efforts and organizations that Bendix employees are currently supporting on their own. Launched in 2015 to honor the anniversary of Knorr-Bremse Global Care, the grants recognize and reward employees' personal volunteer activities with efforts located near Bendix locations. Approved projects that support education, the environment, health and wellness, and social cohesion can receive up to \$3,500 each, covering material costs.

In 2022, Get Involved! grantees included the Mexican Red Cross near Acuña; the Caridad Misionera AC mission organization in Monterrey, Mexico; and the Escuela Primaria

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General Ignacio Zaragoza primary school in Acuña. In the communities near Bendix's Avon headquarters, Get Involved! grantees included Berea Animal Rescue Fund, Inc. and GiGi's Playhouse Cleveland achievement center for individuals with Down syndrome. Four grants were issued to Huntington, Indiana, area organizations, including the KI Tang Soo Do Foundation, Friends of Ouabache State Park, teen and kids outpatient/prevention programming for the Indiana Dream Center, and personal thermal imaging cameras for the Huntington Township Fire Department.

With this year's awards, the amount of Get Involved! funding disbursed over the last eight years now stands at \$980,620 in support of 357 projects and engaging 150 employees.

### **Team Members Gave Even More of Their Time**

In keeping with company tradition, recognizing employees for their volunteer efforts was also a priority of the programs. Bendix continued to provide every employee with up to 16 hours of paid time off to volunteer for company-approved initiatives. Bendix also continued to share monthly spotlights of employees' volunteer activities to increase recognition and awareness.

The company's Dollars for Doers incentive program, which was introduced in 2021, also continued in 2022. The corporate giving initiative rewards employees who volunteer with nonprofit organizations of their choosing. Through the program, Bendix provides participating employees with online incentives that can be redeemed by volunteering for the nonprofit organizations of their choice. Employees are eligible to earn \$50 in incentives for every eight volunteer hours, up to a maximum of \$500 per employee per year.

Altogether, the company's philosophies of giving back to its communities continued to engage employees during 2022.

"It's clear that our community support efforts are becoming ingrained in our culture," Gutierrez said. "More departments and individual groups – such as our Employee Resource Groups – are organizing volunteering and donation drives on their own, and that is so rewarding to see. It shows that our community support efforts are not one-off events but have become part of who we are as an organization."

### **About Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems LLC**

Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, a member of Knorr-Bremse, develops and supplies leading-edge active safety technologies, energy management solutions, and air brake charging and control systems and components under the Bendix® brand name for medium- and heavy-duty trucks, tractors, trailers, buses, and other commercial vehicles throughout North America. An industry pioneer, employing more than 4,400 people, Bendix – and its wholly owned subsidiary, R.H. Sheppard Co., Inc. – is driven to deliver the best solutions for improved vehicle safety, performance,

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and overall operating cost. Contact us at 1-800-AIR-BRAKE (1-800-247-2725) or visit [bendix.com](https://www.bendix.com). Stay connected and informed through Bendix expert podcasts, blog posts, videos, and other resources at [knowledge-dock.com](https://knowledge-dock.com). Follow Bendix on Twitter at [twitter.com/Bendix\\_CVS](https://twitter.com/Bendix_CVS). Log on and learn from the Bendix experts at [brake-school.com](https://brake-school.com). And to learn more about career opportunities at Bendix, visit [bendix.com/careers](https://www.bendix.com/careers).

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