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SMART GROWTH PARTNERSHIP AWARDED \$50,000 GRANT TO CREATE HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES IN BROWARD COUNTY

HEALTH FOUNDATION GRANT EXPANDS PROGRAM TO REACH 17 TOTAL CITIES

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL (May 1, 2013) – Health Foundation of South Florida (HSF) awarded Smart Growth Partnership (SGP), a Broward-based nonprofit organization providing leadership, advocacy and education for the creation of healthy, livable and sustainable communities , a \$50,000 grant for their project “ Smart Cities. “

According to Gloria Katz, founder and president of Smart Growth Partnership, “We’re honored to receive a Health Foundation grant as it reflects an understanding of the tie between community development and community health.” She added, “Working with cities as they plan future growth provides an opportunity to positively impact overall health in the county since smart growth communities are more healthy, vibrant and thriving than ones that are not.”

The Foundation grant enables SGP to expand services to their current cities and add five new cities, which include Wilton Manors, Coconut Creek, Pembroke Pines, Hallandale Beach and Hollywood. A workshop was recently held for these cities to cover the reasons for pursuing smart growth policies and how those policies coordinate with the Seven50 initiative.

The Seven50 initiative seeks to create a blueprint to ensure economic prosperity and quality of life for Southeast Florida region comprised of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties led by the South Florida and Treasure Coast Regional Planning Councils and the Southeast Florida Regional Partnership.

As part of their work, SGP assigns a project manager who oversees how the city stacks up in terms of smart growth principles and initiatives. The smart growth principles, which are based on national standards supported by government agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Green Building Council, as well as advocacy groups like Smart Growth America, can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/UYU4B1>

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The HSF grant not only funds SGP's audits, but also provides additional funding to educate city officials on smart growth and the implementation of smart growth policies. SGP also produces annual spring and fall conferences in collaboration with Nova Southeastern University that features nationally recognized people interested in creating successful, sustainable cities in the US. Previous events featured Peter Katz, author of "A New Urbanism" and Tom Murphy, former mayor of Pittsburgh and now Senior Resident Fellow for Urban Development at the Urban Land Institute.

Last year, SGP received a grant through the Transforming Our Community's Health (TOUCH) initiative, collaboration among more than 30 community organizations and coalitions to support efforts to reduce health disparities and improve the health and well-being of the residents, commuters and workers of Broward County. This funding enabled them to provide counsel on smart growth policy development to 11 cities in Broward, including Fort Lauderdale, Miramar, Dania Beach, Deerfield Beach, Coral Springs, Pompano Beach, West Park, Plantation, Lauderdale Lakes, North Lauderdale and Oakland Park.

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Smart Growth Partnership, Inc. is a collaborative of diverse professionals and organizations providing leadership, advocacy, and education to promote livable and sustainable and green communities. To that end, the partnership, which was founded in 2005, supports the principles of Smart Growth for the south Florida region. For more information, and to read the Smart Growth Principles, visit their website at www.smartgrowthpartnership.org

About Health Foundation of South Florida: Health Foundation of South Florida, a nonprofit grantmaking organization, focuses on going beyond traditional funding to drive change, achieve measurable impact and collaborate with partners who can help us improve health for residents in Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. Since 1993, the Foundation has awarded more than \$98 million on its way to making a healthy difference in the lives of South Floridians. For more information, please call 305.374.7200 or visit www.hfsf.org. For details on Health Foundation's \$7.5 million Healthy Aging Regional Collaborative, see: www.healthyagingsf.org