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Agricenter Awarded Community Enhancement Grant

MEMPHIS, TN --- This afternoon, the Shelby County Commission voted to award a \$10,000 Community Enhancement Grant to Agricenter International for their education program. A special thanks to grant sponsor Commissioner Basar and contributor Commissioner Ford. Agricenter International is a non-profit dedicated to agricultural research and education. It is a 1,000-acre research farm in the heart of Shelby County that manages over 11,000 research plots a year and educates over 4,000 K-12 students.

Many children who have never seen farm animals, row crops, open fields, forests or lakes can learn about them at the Agricenter. Each year, over 33 schools take advantage of the programs offered at Agricenter which are an extension of the classroom and fit into the curriculum. Classes are offered for free and cover topics such as seeds, food nutrition, forests, cowboys, water, solar, and nature hikes. For those schools that cannot afford the transportation, a free bus scholarship is given to pay for the bus rental. It is so important to teach youth where their food and fiber come from!



In addition to these classes, there are four special events held annually: National Agricultural Day Poster contest, Enviro Expo, Farm Education Day, and National Safety Day. A fifth event, Plant Camp, is a week-long summer camp and parents enroll their child with a nominal fee.

Teachers can book a field trip to the Agricenter through this website (<http://www.agricenter.org/youth-education-field-trips>). For more information call 901-757-7777.

2015 figures
56 classes
33 schools
4,000 + students
\$2,739 bus scholarships

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