



Media contact: Jada Russell, 312-375-4136

Brazier Foundation tapped to receive a portion of Boeing's nearly a Quarter-Billion Dollars in Corporate Giving in 2018
\$75K awarded to support robotics training for veterans

CHICAGO – November 19, 2018 – Today the Boeing Company announced the Arthur M. Brazier Foundation as a recipient of a \$75K grant for its business trade school and manufacturing facility, BSD Industries, located on Chicago's South Side. Boeing's \$55 million charitable grants will support 443 nonprofit organizations in 47 countries.

The funding awarded to BSD Industries will support the Robotics Technician Training Program with a veteran focus. The 13-month program includes training, supportive services and an apprenticeship. The program is designed to provide a career pathway to becoming a certified robotic automation control technician for jobseekers.

BSD Industries, a social enterprise, supports community residents in building self determination through robotics training with a career support system that assists in the fulfillment of current and future job employment. The facility also produces a range of high-quality, sustainable, plastic products.

"Boeing's local efforts around global engagement demonstrates their commitment to community at every level," said Dr. Byron Brazier, Brazier Foundation Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. "At BSD Industries, we recognize the need to not only provide workforce development skills but to take it one step further and give community residents on-the-job training where they earn a paycheck and develop skills for a career in a growing industry. Understanding the challenges that face residents, our rigorous curriculum not only provides basic job skills but also provides a support system to be successful."

Anchored by local and regional employee engagement activities, Boeing corporate giving is focused on increasing access to globally competitive STEM learning in underserved and underrepresented communities; improving technical workforce skills; and supporting military families and veterans. Boeing investments also address unique local challenges critical to communities where the company operates.

In addition to the training program, BSD Industries produces high-quality, sustainable plastic products annually and is currently at full production as anticipated at its launch in Fall of 2017. The cutlery is available for purchase with profits earmarked for investment in the stabilization of communities including education, safety, and economic development.

###