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ZIA, INC RECEIVES GRANT FROM W. W. SMITH CHARITABLE TRUST

Zia, Inc is pleased to announce it has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$7,500 from The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust. This grant will support the organizations ongoing effort to provide high quality meal kits to food-insecure Philadelphia schoolchildren and their families, so they can show up to school well-fed and ready to learn. The W. W. Smith Charitable Trust is a private foundation established by William Wikoff Smith in 1977 to make grants in the Greater Philadelphia region to support basic needs, higher education scholarships, maritime education, and medical research primarily for Heart Disease, Cancer and AIDS.

Zia was started in 2015 with the understanding that children with access to adequate food early in life have significantly better outcomes regarding their health, economic status, education, employment, and finances than their food-insecure counterparts. When asked if Zia makes a difference in her family's lives, Zia member Evelyn said, *"Huge, it's a guarantee every week my kids will eat over the weekend. If I don't have a paycheck or anything in the fridge, I know I can at least count on Zia."*

Zia is excited to be able to use the grant funds from The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust to supplement its meal kits, which contain recipes and all the ingredients needed for two nutritious and tasty meals, plus sandwich supplies, and fresh produce each week. "Founder/President of Zia, Paula M. Jones, stated, *"Zia is thrilled to receive this grant from The W.W. Smith Charitable Trust. We appreciate the recognition of our efforts in fighting food insecurity in the community and their generosity will enable us to expand the number of people we serve."*

As a 501c3 non-profit organization, Zia is staffed by committed and caring volunteers from the Philadelphia community, who ensure the operation of Zia runs smoothly each week.

For more information or to contact Zia, visit: www.ziafood.org

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