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HUNTSVILLE-MADISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY RECEIVES \$200,000 DONATION FROM FIRST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH FOUNDATION FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

HUNTSVILLE (Nov. 9, 2016) – First Missionary Baptist Church Foundation (FMBC Foundation), an extension of First Missionary Baptist Church in Huntsville, has approved a \$200,000 donation to the Huntsville Library Foundation (HLF) on behalf of the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL). These funds will be used for the Library's capital campaign for the Bessie K. Russell Branch Library of North Huntsville. The Large Reception Hall will be named after the FMBC Foundation in honor of this generous donation. A press conference announcing this donation will be held at the Bessie K. Russell Branch Library, 3011-C Sparkman Drive, at 10 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 14.

The FMBC Foundation has a mission focused on education and community engagement. This represents the largest donation that they have made since their inception in 2009.

"We at First Missionary Baptist Church, are delighted to join with the City of Huntsville, Redstone Federal Credit Union, the Cecil B. Ashburn Foundation, and other community partners in helping to bring a first-class library to North Huntsville. We believe that this library will enhance the learning experiences of all North Huntsvillians and create a lasting benefit for our school-age children," said FMBC Rev. Dr. Julius R. Scruggs.

"The Bessie K. Russell Branch Library of North Huntsville will enrich the lives of the entire north Huntsville community. The First Missionary Baptist Church Foundation is excited and honored to play a role is this grand undertaking.," said John Stallworth, FMBC Foundation board president.

The Library is conducting a single capital campaign for three new library constructions because their project timelines overlap. Donors are given the option to give to the general campaign fund, or to earmark their donation for a specific project.

"This library would not be possible without the support of our community partners, and we are proud to see the First Missionary Baptist Church Foundation give generously to this worthy cause," said Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle.

This donation from FMBC Foundation, along with large donations from Redstone Federal Credit Union and other contributors, totals \$3.1 million of the \$4.5 million fundraising goal for the new North Huntsville Library.

"We are so pleased to receive such a generous donation that will move us closer to our goal of bringing a state-of-the-art 21 st-century library to North Huntsville," said HMCPL Executive Director Laurel Best.

If you would like to make a donation to the Library's capital campaign, contact Director of Marketing Michelda Johnson at <u>mjohnson@hmcpl.org</u>. For more information about the capital campaign and the proposed library in North Huntsville, visit <u>HuntsvilleLibraryFoundation.org/north</u>.

About First Missionary Baptist Church Foundation

The mission of the FMBC Foundation is to enable the members and others to perpetuate Baptist faith and discipleship through the support of biblically-based initiatives to serve the needs of the membership and others in and beyond the local church. The Foundation was created in 2009 as a separately incorporated, nonprofit, tax-exempt, public foundation sponsored by the membership of FMBC.

About the Huntsville Library Foundation

Founded in 1986, the Huntsville Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to advocate for the library and to acquire resources that enhance the value to the community. This team of dedicated individuals works year-round to raise funds for the 12 branches of HMCPL to better serve Madison County. The Foundation believes that a great library helps make a great community. For more information about the Foundation, please visit <u>HuntsvilleLibraryFoundation.org</u>.

About Huntsville-Madison County Public Library

This is the public's library. Huntsville-Madison County Public Library (HMCPL) is a nonprofit 12-branch system that serves all of Madison County, Ala. For nearly 200 years, the library has been dedicated to enriching the educational, recreational and cultural lives of communities in Madison County through materials, information and programs that foster a lifelong love of learning. In addition to the collection of over 500,000 items, HMCPL also provides outreach services, a BookMobile and Book Bike, online services, training, an extensive digital collection, public-use computers, free Wi-fi, meeting spaces and much more. For more information about HMCPL and its services, please visit www.hmcpl.org.

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