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Nationwide Receives 2016 Community Investment Award

The Mutual Fund Education Alliance (MFEA)'s **STAR Awards** Program presented one mutual fund firm with the **Community Investment Award**, in recognition of a significant commitment to the community. The awards were bestowed at the MFEA's 2016 **STAR Awards** celebration held at The Mid-America Club in Chicago on October 18. This prestigious award is presented annually by the MFEA and was created to recognize the mutual fund firm that most effectively uses its resources to support the community through special programs, partnerships, in-kind goods and services and employee volunteerism in community programs and philanthropic efforts.

A Community Investment Award was presented to Nationwide for their corporate citizenships efforts and their associates' commitment through matching donation programs, incentives for blood donation and volunteerism. Last year Nationwide associates volunteered nearly 115,000 hours in their communities.

"On behalf of the 40,000 associates who make up Nationwide, it's an honor to accept this Community Investment Award from the Mutual Fund Education Alliance," said Mike Spangler, President of Nationwide Funds. "At Nationwide, we believe we're more than a business. Being a good corporate citizen is a big part of who we are, and giving back and helping create strong communities where our associates, agents and members live and work is built into Nationwide's character as a company."

MFEA Director Kimber Lintz explains that the Community Investment Award was established to recognize the fact that mutual fund companies are strong corporate partners in their communities. "Often overlooked for their work outside of investment programs, this award serves to honor asset management companies that create programs designed to foster community betterment and support," says Lintz.

For details on Nationwide's award-winning Community Investment program, visit <https://www.thestarawards.com>.

The **STAR Awards** for excellence in marketing, communications and innovation were also presented at the dinner. Now in its 20th year, the **STAR Awards** program is a prestigious recognition of asset management firms that excel in education, marketing and communications for fund shareholders, advisors, plan participants and the investing public. Visit <https://thestarawards.com/2016-star-awards-winners> for a comprehensive list of STAR Awards winners.

*The **STAR Awards** program was designed to honor the fund industry for its extraordinary efforts to communicate with and market to investors in ways that support shareholders and their investment goals. Over the years, it has distinguished itself as the premier fund industry competition that encourages excellence and fosters improvement and innovation.*

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