

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## KANSAS CITY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OFFICE OF MARKETING & CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

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# 2020 American Business Awards Honor BPU for Corporate Social Responsibility efforts

(KANSAS CITY, Ks.) — The Kansas City Kansas Board of Public Utilities (BPU) was recently named a "Bronze Stevie" Award Winner for *Best Corporate Communications Program - Corporate Responsibility* in the 2020 American Business Awards (ABA). The ABA's, also known as the Stevie Awards, are the nation's premier business awards program with a panel of judges recognizing BPU for its continued efforts to better the community and the environment.

A not-for-profit municipally-owned utility, BPU is committed to maintaining, investing in, and protecting the local community, its customers, and the environment. In efforts to be a socially responsible organization, BPU supports and gives back to Wyandotte County thru three core areas - Community Giving, Volunteerism, and Environmental Education/Advocacy.

The utility's community giving efforts included raising \$58,000 for children through its annual charity golf tournament in 2019, collecting more than \$200,000 for the United Way, and helping 600 households through its Utility Assistance Program last year. Volunteerism efforts included a toy drive for homeless children, Thanksgiving meals delivery and Adapt-A-Family programs for the needy. On-going Environmental Education and Advocacy initiatives help promote a sustainable future through energy efficiency and water conversation efforts, including, videos featuring energy and water saving tips, a video on the benefits of using renewable energy, and a new Kid's Zone webpage providing both environmental and safety learnings for young persons.



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The <u>American Business Awards</u> are considered the nation's preeminent business awards program, with more than 3,600 nominations and 230 judges in 2020 from organizations of all sizes and in virtually every industry. Two of the total four recognized company's alongside BPU in this year's Social Responsibility category included MasterCard and Mercedes Benz.

According to the *New York Post* the "Stevies" are considered the Oscars of the Business Community.



#### **About BPU**

BPU's water department was originally created in 1909, and its electric utility was operational in 1912. The purpose of the utility, then and to this day, is to provide the highest quality electric and water services at the lowest possible cost. Today the publicly owned utility serves approximately 65,000 electric and 51,000 water customers, primarily in Wyandotte County, Kansas. The mission of the utility and its employees is "to focus on the needs of our customers, to improve the quality of life in our community while promoting safe, reliable and sustainable utilities." BPU's Web site is www.bpu.com.