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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Veggie U, Hub55, and Cleveland Monsters Form Partnership to Benefit Local Students

(February 16, 2017 - Oberlin, OH) With a \$10,000 gift from the Monsters Community Fund, the Cleveland Monsters have initiated a partnership with Veggie U and Hub55 that ensures the continuation of classroom garden education for Cleveland Metropolitan elementary students. Through this collaboration, the three organizations will focus on programming that highlights the benefits of healthy eating and science-based education.

Veggie U has provided Cleveland students with an indoor garden program and curriculum covering plant science and nutrition for the past nine years. Supported by many foundations, corporations and individual donors over the years, the indoor gardens and curriculum have been provided at no cost to the schools.

“Our ability to continue providing Veggie U to Cleveland schools was threatened by a funding shortfall this school year,” said Nadia Clifford, Veggie U Executive Director. “This partnership with Hub55 and Cleveland Monsters, along with the Monsters generous \$10,000 donation, will allow for enhanced programming for CMSD students and ensures the gardens will continue to grow.”

Together, the Cleveland Monsters & Hub55 will provide community programs that teach the importance of healthy eating and physical activity. Hub55 is an important partner in the St. Clair/Superior/East 55th St. community and is dedicated to improving the health and vitality of the area and its residents. The Cleveland Monsters are committed to giving back to the community that has embraced them over the last ten seasons. Health and Wellness are amongst the team’s core community initiatives.

“We are thrilled to be able to partner with these great organizations,” said Mike Ostrowski, Monsters Chief Operating Officer. “When we heard of this initiative, we knew we had to be a part of it. It completely aligns with our goals of giving back to the community and school district, as well as supporting nutrition education. We look forward to seeing this program grow.”

About The Cleveland Monsters The 2016 Calder Cup Champion Cleveland Monsters are the proud AHL affiliate of the Columbus Blue Jackets and play in Cleveland at Quicken Loans Arena. For more information, visit ClevelandMonsters.com

About Hub55 HUB 55 is a mixed-use redevelopment plan that will bring a mix of artisans, makers, food purveyors, and entrepreneurs together in a truly collaborative environment. With an indoor and outdoor year round Market, Café, Brewery, Flex Space and Office, HUB 55 will be a destination for Clevelanders to shop, eat and drink in a truly unique way. For more information, visit Hub55Cle.com

About Veggie U Veggie U is dedicated to increasing children’s awareness of healthy food options, and teaching them how real food reaches their plate. We believe children who are exposed to growing their own food are more likely to include vegetables in their diet. Our national non-profit organization supplies Classroom Gardens and a standards based, five-week science program to teachers of elementary and special needs students. For more information, visit VeggieU.org

