



Mercedes-Benz

Press Information

December 5, 2023

## Mercedes-Benz Vans Charleston launches revamped Corporate Social Responsibility Program – Sprinting Forward, Giving Back

- Expansion of the MBV's commitment to fostering positive change in the community
- Focusing on Sustainability, Science, Technology Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and Social Responsibility
- Includes Rising Star Scholarship Program for high school students

**Charleston, SC** – Today, Mercedes-Benz Vans Charleston (MBV) announced **Sprinting Forward, Giving Back**, the company's newly redesigned corporate social responsibility (CSR) program, focused on further expanding the plant's impact in the surrounding Charleston communities. Through partnerships with several non-profit organizations, the initiative will further enable the plant to be an active player in the community, and support programs that highlight the importance of STEM, sustainability, and social responsibility.

MBV is also excited to incorporate a grant program into the **Sprinting Forward, Giving Back** initiative. Up to \$15,000 will be donated to eligible non-profit organizations every year. These grants are an opportunity to partner with new organizations on an annual basis, and further broaden our reach throughout our community. Applications for grants will open in the third quarter of 2024. Interested organizations are encouraged to visit our website at [www.mbvcharleston.com](http://www.mbvcharleston.com) at that time for information regarding how to apply.

In addition to supporting non-profit organizations like the North Charleston Community Resource Center, the South Carolina Aquarium, and the International African American Museum, **Sprinting Forward, Giving Back** also includes a scholarship component – the **Rising Star Scholarship Program**. High school seniors, who plan to study full-time at an accredited institution, will have the opportunity to apply for one-time \$5,000 scholarships. Up to \$90,000 in scholarships will be awarded every year. Scholarship applications for the 2024-2025 academic year have already opened, and interested high school seniors are encouraged to apply. Rising Star Scholarship recipients will be considered preferred candidates for MBV internship opportunities and are encouraged to apply for positions that align with their field of study.

**Sprinting Forward, Giving Back** marks a significant expansion of MBV's commitment to fostering positive change in the community that has welcomed the plant with open arms since its opening in 2006. Over the years MBV has donated millions of dollars and volunteered countless hours throughout the greater Charleston area. "This initiative is firmly anchored in the company's goal to positively impact future generations and make a difference across the Lowcountry, in the communities where we work and live", says **Axel Bense**,

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Chairman of the Supervisory Board: Bernd Pischetsrieder

Board of Management: Ola Källenius, Chairman; Jörg Burzer, Renata Jungo Brüngger, Sabine Kohleisen, Markus Schäfer, Britta Seeger, Hubertus Troska, Harald Wilhelm

The figures are provided in accordance with the German regulation 'PKW-EnVKV' and apply to the German market only. Further information on official fuel consumption figures and the official specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of new passenger cars can be found in the EU guide 'Information on the fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and energy consumption of new cars', which is available free of charge at all sales dealerships, from DAT Deutsche Automobil Treuhand GmbH and at [www.dat.de](http://www.dat.de).

**President & CEO of Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC.** “We are very proud of this new initiative and look forward to continuing to expand our reach throughout the Charleston area”.

For more information about **Sprinting Forward, Giving Back**, and the **Rising Star Scholarship Program**, please visit: [www.mbvcharleston.com](http://www.mbvcharleston.com)

## **About MBV**

**Mercedes-Benz Vans, LLC (“MBV”)** is a plant in Ladson, South Carolina that assembles Sprinter vans for the U.S. and Canadian market under the brand Mercedes-Benz. The midsize Mercedes-Benz Metris vans are also reassembled at this location.

MBV invested more than 500 million U.S. dollars in the new Sprinter plant, which officially opened in 2018. Today the MBV facility provides more than 1,600 jobs and supports at least 600 additional jobs in the region through its suppliers.

More than 300,000 Sprinter and Metris vans have been assembled in North Charleston and delivered to destinations across the U.S. since 2006. In 2021, the plant celebrated its 15-year legacy of SKD production in South Carolina. The U.S. is the second largest market for Sprinter vans, after Germany.

<https://mbvcharleston.com/> | [MBV LinkedIn](#)

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Further information about **Mercedes-Benz** is available at [www.mercedes-benz.com](http://www.mercedes-benz.com). Press information and digital services for journalists and multipliers can be found on our **Mercedes me media online platform** at [media.mercedes-benz.com](http://media.mercedes-benz.com) as well as on our **Mercedes-Benz media site** at [group-media.mercedes-benz.com](http://group-media.mercedes-benz.com). Learn more about current topics and events related to Mercedes-Benz Cars & Vans on our **@MB\_Press** Twitter channel at [www.twitter.com/MB\\_Press](http://www.twitter.com/MB_Press).

### **Mercedes-Benz AG at a glance**

Mercedes-Benz AG is responsible for the global business of Mercedes-Benz Cars and Mercedes-Benz Vans, with around 172,000 employees worldwide. Ola Källenius is Chairman of the Board of Management of Mercedes-Benz AG. The company focuses on the development, production and sales of passenger cars, vans and vehicle-related services. Furthermore, the company aspires to be the leader in the fields of electric mobility and vehicle software. The product portfolio comprises the Mercedes-Benz brand with the brands of Mercedes-AMG, Mercedes-Maybach, Mercedes-EQ, G-Class and the smart brand. The Mercedes me brand offers access to the digital services from Mercedes-Benz. Mercedes-Benz AG is one of the world's largest manufacturers of luxury passenger cars. In 2021 it sold around 1.9 million passenger cars and nearly 386,200 vans. In its two business segments, Mercedes-Benz AG is continually expanding its worldwide production network with around 35 production sites on four continents, while gearing itself to meet the requirements of electric mobility. At the same time, the company is constructing and extending its global battery production network on three continents. As sustainability is the guiding principle of the Mercedes-Benz strategy and for the company itself, this means creating lasting value for all stakeholders: for customers, employees, investors, business partners and society as a whole. The basis for this is the sustainable business strategy of the Mercedes-Benz Group. The company thus takes responsibility for the economic, ecological and social effects of its business activities and looks at the entire value chain.