



Serving Families. Changing Lives.

June 4, 2018

John Lawrence
Senior Economic Development Specialist
Suite 1100
100 Peabody Place
Memphis, TN 38103

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

For the past eighteen years I have been the executive director of the community-based nonprofit SMA. Our work to improve the lives of the residents of South Memphis has been a life fulfilling effort.

The phrase "food desert" has become synonymous with urban communities. We have worked to maintain area supermarkets that provide customers with the fresh produce they need. We are seeing children being raised on a diet of unhealthy processed foods and sugar laden drinks.

The loss of Kroger at the Southgate Shopping Center was a major blow to the surrounding community. So I was pleased to hear of the possibility of a Cash Saver grocery coming to fill the now empty site. I was also informed that there will be a financial application made to EDGE to help support this initiative.

Mr. Lawrence, I don't need to tell you the significance of securing this store for South Memphis. It is my hope that you will do everything in your power to support this effort.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Reginald Milton
SMA Executive Director