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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## The Provident Bank Foundation Announces Third Cycle 2016 Major Grant Recipients

*More than \$95,000 awarded to New Jersey, Pennsylvania projects*

**MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY (November 14, 2016)** – [The Provident Bank Foundation](#) (PBF) is pleased to announce the recipients of its Third Cycle 2016 Major Grants, totaling more than \$95,000 for projects and programs across New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

A Major Grant funds projects and/or programs that address one or more of PBF's funding priority areas – community enrichment, education, and health, youth and families – in a significant way. Major Grants provide between \$5,000 and \$25,000 in funding, and emphasize the support of sustainable community enhancement and short-term change.

“The Provident Bank is committed to enhancing the quality of life in New Jersey and Pennsylvania communities through the support of various programs and initiatives,” said Jane Kurek, Executive Director, The Provident Bank Foundation. “Each of the Cycle 3 recipients has a similar mission, and we look forward to the progress each will make.”

Several of the recipients of PBF's Third Cycle 2016 Major Grants are as follows:

**NEW JERSEY – SPECIFIC**[Newark Museum of Essex County](#)

The **\$15,000** in funding will support The Newark Museum Explorers Program, a unique 3-year learning experience starting in 10<sup>th</sup> grade for students in the greater Newark area. The program includes internships, small-group instruction, research projects, field trips, college guidance, “life skills” workshops, as well as access to Museum professionals, engineers, designers and others representing a wide range of fields from across the region. The Explorers Program fosters a sense of ownership while providing Explorers with presentation, teamwork, research and technology skills that will give the students an edge in their academic and professional lives.

[Newark Beth Israel Medical Center Foundation of Essex County](#)

The **\$7,500** in funding will support KidsFit, a healthy lifestyle program designed for the challenges of children growing up in an inner city. Through this program, KidsFit plans to increase the number of children and families who are becoming educated on healthy eating and

how to access and grow healthy foods at the Beth Greenhouse. The Beth Greenhouse will serve as an educational hub and offer hands-on learning activities for students in elementary school through high school.

[Hackensack UMC Palisades of Hudson County](#)

The **\$10,000** in funding will support the Palisades Community Outreach Program. The program addresses the healthcare challenges of individuals in Hudson and Bergen Counties with special emphasis on HgA1c diabetes screening and education. Over the course of the grant, the Community Outreach Program will reach 2,400 individuals at no less than 35 healthcare screening events.

[Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide of Monmouth County](#)

The **\$9,103** in funding will support Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide (SPTS) Teen University, a component of SPTS Youth Council. The Youth Council is directed at engaging youth as ambassadors in the prevention process. This ongoing council of teens from Monmouth and Ocean Counties work on suicide prevention projects, learn resiliency and helping skills, while functioning in an advisory role to the agency. SPTS Teen University will address topics through a series of presentations and group facilitations intended to enhance one's ability to overcome a crisis.

[Family Resource Associates of Monmouth and Ocean Counties](#)

The **\$10,000** in funding will support a technology classroom at Family Resource Associates (FRA) new educational center. FRA connects individuals to independence through modern therapies and advanced technology. The new technology classroom will eliminate program wait lists to serve more individuals with developmental disabilities in the community.

[Homeless Solutions of Morris County](#)

The **\$15,000** in funding will support Homeless Solutions in partnership with The Mental Health Association of Morris County in an Addiction Counseling Program. This program will train the case managers at both agencies to become Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselors to provide their clients in need with addiction counseling. The certification program consists of 45 courses covering five subjects: assessment, counseling, case management, client education and professional responsibility.

[The Calais School of Morris County](#)

The **\$8,450** in funding will support a school vehicle for The Calais School's Structured Learning Experience (SLE) program. The program provides supervised, in-depth learning experiences that encourage students to explore career interests within one or more Career and Technical Education clusters, including general business practices, media communications, digital arts, child care, and more.

[Carrier Clinic of Somerset County](#)

The **\$10,000** in funding will support Music Therapy-Song Composition for teens at the Carrier Clinic campus East Mountain Youth Lodge program. The program serves adolescents aged between 13 and 18 who have been diagnosed with a psychiatric, emotional and/or behavioral condition and need help on a long-term residential basis. The teen residents will engage in writing, rehearsing and recording original songs that tell the story of their struggles and healing. The objective is to give them a hands-on interactive experience, which will allow them to explore their feelings in a safe environment.

**PENNSYLVANIA – SPECIFIC**

[Anti-Defamation League of Philadelphia County](#)

The **\$10,000** in funding will support No Place for Hate® in 51 schools throughout eastern Lehigh, southeastern Northampton and Bucks Counties. This innovative program helps approximately 43,000 K-12 students and teachers each year to accomplish the objectives of understanding diversity, promoting respect for differences and challenging bias and bullying, thereby improving access to a well-rounded education by working to create safe, inclusive environments in schools.

For additional information regarding the grant process and deadlines for each of the funding opportunities and information about PBF, visit <http://www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org> or call (862) 260-3990.

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**About The Provident Bank Foundation**

The Provident Bank Foundation was established in 2003 by Provident Bank to enhance the quality of life in the region through support of not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other 501(c)(3) organizations that provide services in communities served by the Bank. Since inception, the Foundation has granted more than \$21million to not-for-profit organizations and institutions working toward stronger communities. For more information about The Provident Bank Foundation, visit [www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org](http://www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org) or call (862) 260-3990.