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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Provident Bank Foundation Awards 2016 \$100K ‘Signature’ Grant to College of Saint Elizabeth** *For use toward enhancements to Experiential Learning Center*

Morristown, NJ (September 8, 2016) – [The Provident Bank Foundation](#) (PBF) has announced the College of Saint Elizabeth (CSE) in Morristown, N.J. is the recipient of the Foundation’s \$100,000 “Signature” Grant in the *Education* funding priority area.

“The Foundation’s efforts in education support innovative programming like CSE’s that expand access to and improve the quality of well-rounded educational experiences for people of all ages,” said Jane Kurek, Executive Director, PBF. “CSE affirms its commitment in service to the community, and is dedicated to the values of integrity, social responsibility, leadership, and excellence in teaching and learning.”



*Pictured from left to right: Helen J. Streubert, President, College of Saint Elizabeth; Greg Dittrich, SVP/ Regional Manager, The Provident Bank; Jane Kurek, Executive Director, The Provident Bank Foundation; Christopher Richardson, College of Saint Elizabeth student; Theresa Corso, Director, Experiential Learning Center; Hayley Holzhackar, College of Saint Elizabeth student; Christopher Martin, President of*

*PBF and President & CEO, The Provident Bank; and Robert Rupel, Board Member, The Provident Bank Foundation.*

CSE was selected to receive the Signature Grant for use toward enhancements of their Experiential Learning Center (ELC), which is designed to provide students a central resource to integrate academic learning with real-world experience.

Enhancements required to strengthen the ELC include:

- The development of a formalized mentoring program to link each student with a community or alumni professional for guidance and support
- Additional ELC staff member to assure efficient and effective services to students and community partners
- The collection and assessment of student and mentor/partner activities through the acquisition and utilization of Campus Labs, as well as integrated software/cloud-based assessment tool specifically designed for higher education.

“The Provident Bank Foundation shares our values of a well-rounded education for our students,” says Dr. Helen J. Streubert, president of the College of Saint Elizabeth. “Classroom learning coupled with experiences in the field as volunteers and interns enriches our students and gives them personal and academic experiences that will help them to excel in their chosen careers upon graduation as well as contributing members of society.”

CSE is a community of learning in the Catholic liberal arts tradition for students of diverse ages, backgrounds, and cultures. CSE's vision is to become nationally recognized for educating individuals who seek an education focused on engaged learning for leadership in service to others. It serves Morris, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, and Union counties.

For more information about PBF, visit [www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org](http://www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org).

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### **About The Provident Bank Foundation**

The Provident Bank Foundation was established in 2003 with the intent of supporting not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other 501(c)(3) organizations that provide valuable services to the communities served by Provident 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.

**About College of Saint Elizabeth**

Sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, New Jersey, the College of Saint Elizabeth enrolls more than 1,200 full- and part-time students in more than 19 undergraduate, nine graduate and two doctoral degree programs; an Ed.D. in educational leadership and a Psy.D. in counseling psychology. For information on other activities or programs, visit the College of Saint Elizabeth web site at [www.cse.edu](http://www.cse.edu).