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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Provident Bank Foundation Announces First Cycle 2016 Major Grant Recipients

More than \$170,000 awarded to New Jersey and Pennsylvania projects and programs

MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY (May 16, 2016) – [The Provident Bank Foundation](#) (PBF) is pleased to announce the recipients of its First Cycle 2016 Major Grants, totaling more than \$170,000 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 Foundation seeks to build relationships with organizations that have the drive to create change, and all of our grantees do just that,” said Jane Kurek, Executive Director, The Provident Bank Foundation. “The organizations funded during this cycle show passion for their mission and meet the high standards of governance, accountability and fiscal management.”

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

[Bridges Outreach Inc. in Essex County](#)

Bridges Outreach connects the housed and homeless to establish relationships that lead to greater acceptance and understanding, social and economic growth, and well being. The **\$7,500** in funding will support Project Connect where case managers work with clients to establish a set of attainable goals that will lead to better health, job readiness, and ultimately employment and housing.

[Boys and Girls Club of Hudson County](#)

Boys and Girls Club's mission is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The **\$7,500 grant** will support a new program entitled “Summer Brain Gain (SBG)” which will provide engaging, educational activities along with the typical summer camp experience for youth ages 6-18.

[Women Rising, Inc.in Hudson County](#)

Women Rising Inc. assists women and their families to achieve self-sufficiency and live safe, productive and fulfilling lives, through social services, economic development, and advocacy services. Funding, **totaling \$7,500**, will aid WomenRising's Job Bank which provides a space where anyone from within the community can meet with a counselor to discuss resume writing, job searching and interview skills.

[United Way of Hunterdon County](#)

United Way of Hunterdon County's mission is to bring people and resources together to improve lives and conditions and to advance the common good of the community. Funding, **totaling \$5,000**, will aid United Way of Hunterdon County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program's objective to provide efficient income support to Hunterdon County residents.

[State Theatre Regional Arts Center in Middlesex County](#)

The State Theatre Regional Arts Center at New Brunswick exists to enrich the lives of people from diverse backgrounds in New Jersey and to contribute to a vital urban environment by presenting the finest national and international performing artists, providing arts education programs to inform and build future audiences and by providing a major performing arts venue in central New Jersey that encourages and enables members of the community to have a life-long association with the performing arts. **The \$20,000 grant** will allow the State Theatre Regional Arts Center to continue their year-round Community Access Initiative which provides theater experiences to individuals of all ages and cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. The Community Access Initiative includes Milk & Cookies which introduces youngsters and families to live music and to storytelling, as well as the free Summer Movies Series.

[CentraState Healthcare Foundation in Monmouth County](#)

CentraState Healthcare Foundation's mission is to inspire broad-based community philanthropic support for advancing exceptional healthcare at the CentraState Healthcare System. The **\$7,500 in funding** will aid "A Matter of Balance" program which is designed to reduce falls and the fear of falling. This unique program allows participants to learn exercises to improve their balance and it addresses the fears many older adults have related to falling and the ways in which this impacts their activity levels and quality of life.

[Good Grief Inc.in Morris County](#)

Good Grief provides unlimited and free support to children, teens, young adults and families following the death of a mom, dad, brother, or sister through its peer support programs, education and advocacy. Funding, **totaling \$5,000** will be used for expansion and increase the organization's impact by recruiting and training 25 new facilitator volunteers in 2016.

[Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence in Bucks County](#)

The mission of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) is to eliminate personal and institutional violence against women through programs providing support and safety to battered women, including direct services, public information and education, systems advocacy and social change activities. The **\$10,000 in funding** will allow PCADV to expand its economic empowerment initiative, Women Taking Charge. Women Taking Charge is an empowerment program located at A Woman's Place in Bucks County, which supports multiple strategies to assist Pennsylvania domestic violence survivors overcome financial abuse.

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](#). PBF is committed to strengthening and sustaining its relationships with communities in the bank's marketplace.

"Since the Foundation's inception, more than \$21 million has been awarded to deserving and amazing organizations. In 2016 we look forward to seeing this number rise," adds Kurek.

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 The 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 or call (862) 260-3990.