



NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

The Provident Bank Foundation

Shaunna Murphy, 862-260-3990 / shaunna.murphy@providentnj.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Provident Bank Foundation Supports Easton Teen Parenting Program

Community grant supports Easton Area Neighborhood Centers' ASPIRE Program

Easton, PA (June 25, 2015) – The Provident Bank Foundation (<http://providentnjfoundation.org>), which supports organizations that are dedicated to improving the lives of residents in the communities served by Provident Bank, has presented a \$2,500 community grant to the Easton Area Neighborhood Centers (EANC) to benefit the organization's ASPIRE Program, a mentoring program for Easton Area School District's pregnant and parenting teens. ASPIRE promotes the wellness of young parents and their children, enhances life skills, and emphasizes the importance of education, making the completion of high school (and ideally, the pursuit of post-secondary education) the ultimate goal of every participant.

“Without this type of support system in place, the demands of balancing school, parenthood and other daily struggles of being a teenager could easily become too much for a young person to handle,” said Jane Kurek, Executive Director of the Provident Bank Foundation. “Something would have to give – and in many cases, it's usually school. The support offered by ASPIRE gives teenagers facing these challenges the chance to learn tools and skills necessary to become self-sufficient adults and parents.”

Originating in 1967 as a collaborative partnership between community residents, the Easton NAACP and the City of Easton, the Easton Area Neighborhood Center embraced a "grass roots" community-based service model to serving low to moderate income individuals and families. For over 47 years, EANC has remained firm in its commitment to the community by providing an array of social services designed to enhance and enrich the quality of life of low to moderate income individuals and families.

“Working in the ASPIRE program with these teen mothers and fathers makes you realize how little things can make a big difference,” said Judy Matthewson, Executive Director of Easton Area Neighborhood Centers. “ASPIRE gives the young parents a place to face their fears, confront their confusion and realize that they are not the first nor are they the only one in their position. It bonds them in a network of

others who are experiencing the same situations and who can give new perspectives on solutions. We are honored that the Provident Bank Foundation has chosen this program to support and appreciate the faith it has placed in us.”

More information about Easton Area Neighborhood Centers’ ASPIRE program is available at <http://www.eastonareaneighborhoodcenter.org> or by calling (610) 253-4253. For more information about The Provident Bank Foundation, visit <http://www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org> or call (862) 260-3990.

About The Provident Bank Foundation

The Provident Bank Foundation was established by New Jersey’s oldest bank in 2003 to enhance the quality of life in the region through support of not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other organizations that provide services in communities served by Provident Bank. Since its founding, the Foundation has granted more than \$19 million to not-for-profit organizations and institutions working toward stronger communities. For more information about The Provident Bank Foundation, visit <http://www.ProvidentNJFoundation.org> or call (862) 260-3990.

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