



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Provident Bank Foundation Supports Head Start Community Program
\$3,500 Grant Supports Fatherhood Initiative

DOVER, NJ (June 3, 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 provided Head Start Community Program of Morris County with a \$3,500 grant to support its Fatherhood Initiative. This program specifically aims to educate and guide fathers and male caregivers about the skills, strategies, and roles each one should play in their child’s life and education.

The Fatherhood Initiative provides the resources, mentoring, and training necessary to help families strengthen their relationships and children’s learning development. The program is led by a bilingual male role model, and will serve over 1,000 individuals within this school-year program, providing father-engaged topic opportunities.

“A child’s performance in and outside of school is impacted by the roles that parents and caregivers play. Building healthy relationships are extremely important to any person’s well-being, and it always starts with family,” said Jane Kurek, executive director of The Provident Bank Foundation. “The Fatherhood Initiative is an exceptional program that will continue to strengthen the community and uplift families of diverse backgrounds.”

“We are thrilled to receive Provident Bank Foundation’s Community Grant for the Fatherhood Initiative at Head Start of Morris County,” said Susan O’Donnell, executive director at Head Start. “The grant will help us provide a structured, respectful Fatherhood program with culturally competent role modeling. This initiative will touch many families, helping us to support fathers as nurturing figures in their children’s lives.”

More information about the Head Start Community Program of Morris County is available at <http://www.headstartmc.org> or by calling (973)-989-1430. 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.

About The Head Start Community Program of Morris County, Inc.

The mission of Head Start Community Program of Morris County is to promote child development and school readiness for prenatal through preschool-age children from low-income families, providing comprehensive services to empower diverse families and strengthen communities. This year marks Head Start's 50th year of service to the Morris County community. Community engagement is a central focus of programming and service to Head Start families. For more information about the Head Start Community Program of Morris County, visit <http://www.headstartmc.org> or call (973)-989-1430.

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Caption: Susan Munizzi-Mirlas, Branch Manager of Provident Bank, Nancy Wynant, Relationship Manager/Business Banking, Provident Bank, and Jane Kurek, Executive Director,

The Provident Bank Foundation give Susan O'Donnell, Executive Director of Head Start (center) a check of \$3,500 to the Head Start kids.



Caption: Susan Munizzi-Mirlas with children from Head Start receives a warm hug.