



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Provident Bank Foundation Helps Elijah's Promise Culinary Students
\$5,000 Grant Supports Promise Jobs Culinary School

New Brunswick, NJ (December, 10, 2014) – 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 a \$5,000 grant to Elijah's Promise in support of providing quality training and job placement services to low income adults to support long term self sufficiency. The grant will enable Promise Jobs Culinary School to continue their work in supplying students with a wide variety of culinary fundamentals, along with assistance in internship and job placement in the food service industry.

"We are proud to provide Elijah's Promise with necessary funds to support the culinary school and assist those in long term self sufficiency," said Jane Kurek, executive director of The Provident Bank Foundation.

"On behalf of Elijah's Promise and the many people we serve, we are extremely grateful for your generous support", said Jim Zullo, executive director of Elijah's Promise.

Elijah's Promise harnesses the power of food to break the cycle of poverty, alleviate hunger and change lives. The Promise Jobs Culinary School has assisted over 650 low-income adults who have participated in the program and over 550 have completed the program and work in food service. The school includes a day and evening culinary program and specialized Baking and Pastry Arts program. The Culinary School program is a NJ Department of Education and NJ Department of Workforce Development approved Private Vocational School that prepares low-income and disadvantaged adults to obtain positions in food service.

More information about Elijah's Promise is available at <http://www.elijahspromise.org> or by calling (732) 545- 9002. 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 communities served by the Provident Bank. The Foundation supports not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other organizations that provide services in these communities. Since its founding, the Foundation has provided more than \$19 million in grants for programs focusing on education, health, wellness, recreation, the arts and social and civic services.

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Editor's Note: Photo and caption enclosed (higher resolution photo is available upon request)



Caption: (pictured center) Darleen Gillespie, vice president, Provident Bank and Shauna Murphy, foundation associate, The Provident Bank Foundation toured the Promise Jobs Culinary School and visited with Jim Zullo (far right), executive director, Elijah's Promise and some of the culinary students.