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Investors Bank Grants Fund Virtual Clinic at Thomas Edison
*Foundation Supports Expansion of Nursing School’s Technologies*

**SHORT HILLS, New Jersey –** Nursing students at Thomas Edison State College can safely diagnose and make decisions for a variety of patients without the fear of doing harm, thanks in part to a $37,500 grant from Investors Bank Foundation, in partnership with Roma Bank Community Foundation. This is the second grant in this amount in as many years from Investors to the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing.

“The Virtual Clinical Simulation (VCS) program has given our online nursing students access to sophisticated digital representations of patients, integrated with advanced technology and software,” explained Dr. Filomela Marshall, Dean of the W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison State College. “The funding also supports our on-ground Nursing Simulation Lab which is the technological centerpiece of the Accelerated Second Degree BSN Program.”

The funding is part of a multiyear installment that supports the ongoing expansion of the school’s innovative online VCS program and on-ground Nursing Simulation Lab; according to Marshall, both technologies are invaluable in supplementing students’ clinical nursing experience, enabling them to develop optimal critical thinking and decision-making skills in replicated environments at no risk to real patients. Last year’s funding from Investors Bank enabled the school to purchase the necessary software and one of six MAC avatars for the VCS program.

"We are enormously grateful for the generosity of Investors Bank," said Misty Isak, Associate Vice President of Development at Thomas Edison State College. "Their funding makes it possible for the college to respond to the needs of our students and provide an important technological component in their education. Their support, and that of all our donors and partners, is vital to the pursuit of our mission."

The W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing at Thomas Edison applied for the grant from Investors Foundation and the Roma Bank Community Foundation, both of which support non-profit organizations that enrich the diverse communities served by Investors Bank; Roma Bank became part of Investors Bank in early December 2013.

“Providing New Jersey students with the tools they need to become successful in the medical field is a joy for Investors Bank,” said Linda Martin, Senior Market Manager, Investors Bank. “We are delighted to see the funds being put to good use in the classrooms at Thomas Edison State College, where students can learn practical knowledge without potentially hurting anyone.”

(More)
Photo Caption: Thomas Edison State College W. Cary Edwards School of Nursing Dean Dr. Filomela Marshall (far left) accepts a $37,500 grant from Investors Bank to help fund the college’s Virtual Clinical Simulation program, which creates interactive clinical experiences for nursing students, allowing them to practice healthcare assessments. Joining Marshall are, from left, John Thurber, Vice President for Public Affairs at Thomas Edison State College; Linda Martin, Senior Market Manager for Investors Bank, and Amy Rouze, Investors Bank AVP/Branch Manager – Robbinsville.

About Investors Bank
Investors Bank is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With over $20.04 billion in assets and more than 130 retail branches in New Jersey, New York City and Long Island, Investors Bank delivers personalized services and products tailored to the needs of its customers. Investors’ consumer banking services include complete deposit products, online banking, home equity loans and lines of credit and a full array of mortgage loans. Serving the business community, Investors provides deposit accounts, cash management services, business loans and lines of credit, and commercial real estate financing solutions to small and middle market companies, professional services firms, municipalities and other businesses. Investors Bank is a member of the FDIC and an Equal Housing Lender.

About Thomas Edison State College
Thomas Edison State College provides flexible, high-quality, collegiate learning opportunities for self-directed adults. One of New Jersey’s 11 senior public institutions of higher education, the college offers associates’, bachelors’ and masters’ degrees in more than 100 areas of study. Students earn degrees through a wide variety of rigorous and high-quality academic methods that can be customized to meet their individual needs. Identified by the New York Times as “The college that paved the way for flexibility,” Thomas Edison State College is a national leader in the assessment of adult learning and a pioneer in the use of educational technologies. The college is home to The John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy. The New Jersey State Library is an affiliate of Thomas Edison State College. Visit www.tesc.edu for more information.

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