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YMCA and Investors Bank Provide “Bright Beginnings” To Gloucester County-Area Children in Need

SHORT HILLS, New Jersey – The thought of the first day of a new school-year sometimes can fill a child with dread, but the YMCA of Gloucester County (YGC), in partnership with Investors Bank, is hoping that is not the case after dozens of area children received brand new back-to-school clothes and supplies this year. The Investors Bank Foundation, in partnership with Roma Bank Community Foundation, granted \$5,000 to the YGC’s “Bright Beginnings” community outreach program, which offers a free shopping day to needy children throughout the community.

“The YMCA Bright Beginnings is just that - a bright beginning. Every child deserves a chance to start the new school year with confidence and pride. They shouldn’t have to worry about having clothes that fit properly and appropriate shoes on their feet,” said Melissa O’Neill Walczak, YMCA of Gloucester County CEO. “We want to support families where we can, and this is a great place to start.”

Before the start of this school year, more than 30 children were taken shopping, where each child received two complete outfits, including shoes and a jacket, and a backpack filled with school supplies. Volunteers assisted the children one-on-one or in small groups with their shopping.

The children and their families do not pay to participate in “Bright Beginnings”; rather, YGC accepts donations from organizations, such as Investors Bank, and from individuals.

YGC applied for the grant from the Investors Foundation and the Roma Bank Community Foundation, which supports non-profit organizations that enrich the diverse communities served by Investors Bank; Roma Bank became part of Investors Bank in December 2013. Each foundation granted \$2,500.

“Investors Bank is more than just a bank, we are a community resource,” said Rennie Resalsingh, Investors Bank Assistant Vice President/Pitman Branch Manager. “We are thrilled to support deserving non-profit organizations, such as the YMCA, in their work in making Southern New Jersey an even better place to live, work, and play.”

“The YMCA of Gloucester County is a great resource for all of South Jersey, with many programs for everyone – from infants to seniors,” said Carmine Pannullo, a Senior Market Manager for Investors Bank. “Investors is proud to support the YMCA in its mission to serve the needy and provide quality programming. By providing children with the items they need to learn, they now can concentrate on their studies and be excited for school.”

YGC always is accepting volunteers and donations for all of its programs. For more information on how you can assist, visit www.ymcagloco.org and click on “Get Involved.”

(More)



YMCA of Gloucester County
Add One
November 19, 2015

Photo Caption: Melissa O’Neill Walczak, second from right, CEO of YMCA of Gloucester County, accepts a \$2,500 check from Investors Bank representatives, from left: Sandy Broughton, Vice President and Community Development Officer; Carmine Pannullo, Senior Market Manager; and Rennie Resalsingh, Assistant Vice President/Pitman Branch Manager.

About Investors Bank

Investors Bank is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With more than \$20 billion in assets and more than 135 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 YMCA of Gloucester County (YGC)

The YMCA of Gloucester County is one of the leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Across Gloucester County, YGC engages 3,500 men, women, and children – regardless of age, income, or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. With a full facility in Woodbury, NJ, and program sites throughout the county, YGC has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but deliver lasting personal and social change. For more information visit www.ymcagloco.org.