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 **Katheryn**, Neighbor

Housing Partnership Receives Housing Impact Grant from Lakeland Bank



IMMEDIATE

Katheryn Luther, Resource Development Director, Housing Partnership for Morris County, Inc.

973-659-9222; Email: Katheryn.Luther@hpnj.us

Housing Partnership Receives Impact Grant from Lakeland Bank

Housing Impact Grant Awarded to Housing Partnership for Morris County, Inc. to Reestablish Savings Program

Dover, N.J.- July 2, 2018 – The Housing Partnership for Morris County, Inc., a 26-year-old financial literacy education nonprofit and affordable homes administrator, has been awarded a housing impact grant from Lakeland Bank. The purpose of the Housing Impact Grant Program is to address specific community-focused initiatives and invest in nonprofit organizations in local communities.

The \$20,000 awarded to the Housing Partnership for Morris County, Inc. will support the Individual Development Account (IDA) Matched Savings Program, a systematic matched savings club for income eligible households who are two or more years away from homeownership and are working on debt and credit issues.

“With this grant the Housing Partnership has the opportunity to once again offer the IDA match savings program – which was discontinued for over 5 years!” said Jessica Padilla Gonzalez, executive director, Housing Partnership, a NeighborWorks Homeownership Center. “This match will provide much needed resources for our hard working families hoping to achieve homeownership.”

“As a community bank, we believe Lakeland has an obligation not only to provide financial services, but also invest in initiatives that enhance the places where our associates and customers live and work,” said Thomas Shara, president and chief executive officer. “We are excited to structure a non-competitive grant program that will allow Lakeland the opportunity to offer funding to some of the most well-established nonprofits in our communities.”

Caption: Lakeland Bank President and CEO Tom Shara (right) colleagues Deb Zimmerly, vice president, compliance and Housing Partnership board member, and Ron Schwarz, chief operating officer, (center) present a Housing Impact Grant of \$20,000 to Jessica Padilla Gonzalez, executive director of the Housing Partnership

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