# **NEWS** VOLUNTEER CENTER OF BERGEN COUNTY

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 23, 2015 End date: April 10, 2015

#### Local Event Inspires Leaders to Apply to Leadership Program

BERGEN COUNTY— About 100 aspiring and established leaders from Bergen County were bursting with energy and enthusiasm at "Making Connections: An Evening of Networking and Learning" on the evening of Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Twin Door Tavern in Maywood. The event was hosted by Bergen LEADS, the Volunteer Center of Bergen County's learning and leadership program, which is now recruiting applicants for its upcoming Class of 2016. Bergen LEADS is open to adults who live or work in Bergen County and applications are due on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

The event provided an opportunity for attendees to connect with current and former participants of Bergen LEADS. Several alumni spoke about how the program changed their lives and helped them to become better leaders and more engaged in their community.

Eddie Seaves, Bergen LEADS Class of 2014, was one of the speakers at the event. "Bergen LEADS challenged me to learn and grow as a person and a professional. The collaboration of individuals with experience in a variety of professions made me a stronger leader in my own career."

Lauren Turiello, Bergen LEADS Class of 2014, said, "Bergen LEADS is a program designed to teach and engage anyone living and/or working in Bergen County. It was a life lesson of what I thought I knew, versus what I actually know. I am truly grateful for my LEADS experience."

Under the guidance of former Bergen County Executive William "Pat" Schuber, the Bergen LEADS Seminar Director, participants are immersed in a stimulating curriculum that introduces them to issues of local importance and encourages them to explore their leadership style, enhance their leadership capacity and become meaningfully engaged in helping to solve some of the challenges facing Bergen County.

To find out more or to apply to Bergen LEADS, visit <u>www.bergenleads.org</u>.

Bergen LEADS is a program of The Volunteer Center of Bergen County. The Volunteer Center strengthens the community by connecting people through service and developing civic leaders.

### CAPTIONS:

3146: Members of the Bergen LEADS Class of 2014 attended the "Making Connections" event to network and inspire others to apply to the Bergen LEADS learning and leadership program.

3140: (L-R) Carmen Addeo (Class of 2014), Angela LaFace and Maria Mathelier (Class of 2014) of Boiling Springs Savings Bank at the Bergen LEADS "Making Connections" networking event.

700: (L-R) Alexis Fatigati (Class of 2014) Beanne DeGuzman (Program Coordinator), Marc Sturiale (Class of 2013) and Mary Lyons Kim (Class of 2014) helped organize "Making Connections", an event presented by Bergen LEADS, the Volunteer Center of Bergen County's leadership program.

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