

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 20, 2015

Volunteer Center Receives Grant From PNC Foundation

Bergen County: The PNC Foundation recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to the Volunteer Center of Bergen County. Funds will support the Volunteer Center's **Mentoring Moms** program, which matches overwhelmed mothers, many of whom are single parents, with caring mentors who provide emotional and practical support by helping them with everyday parenting challenges, including financial issues and other struggles.

The funds will be used to support the recruitment, screening, training and supervision of mentors, as well as to provide activities to strengthen families and enhance educational opportunities for the children involved in the program, such as a free book fair and a back to school workshop.

PNC, through the PNC Foundation, has supported Mentoring Moms for the past 11 years, helping struggling mothers to work toward providing stability and safety for their families, and encouraging healthy child development for their children so that they can succeed in school. PNC grants are provided by the PNC Foundation, which receives its principal funding from The PNC Financial Services Group.

"We are so grateful to PNC for supporting the mothers and families in our program," says Cindy Andrade, Program Director for Mentoring Moms. "Funding for workshops and events allows us to provide valuable learning opportunities which not only impacts mothers, but their children as well."

More women are needed to become mentors—there is an especially great need for bi-lingual, Spanish-speaking mentors. To find out how to become a mentor, or to pledge a donation to support the Mentoring Moms program, call (201) 489-9454 or visit www.bergenvolunteers.org and click on mentoring programs.

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

The PNC Foundation actively supports organizations that provide services for the benefit of communities in which it has a significant presence. The foundation focuses its philanthropic mission on early childhood education and community and economic development, which includes the arts and culture. Through Grow Up Great, its signature cause that began in 2004, PNC has created a \$350 million, multi-year initiative to help prepare children from birth to age 5 for success in school and life.

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