

Contacts:

Scott Agnoli, Investors Bank
973.924.5175, SAgnoli@myinvestorsbank.com

Laura Bishop, Laura Bishop Communications
609.405.0129, Laura@Laura-Bishop.com

Investors Foundations Aid Summer Activities for Local Children
Grants Totaling \$5,000 Support Every Child Valued at Eggerts Crossing Village

ROBBINSVILLE, New Jersey – Children who are rising Kindergartners through fourth-graders involved in the Every Child Valued program (ECV) in Eggerts Crossing Village in Lawrence Township spent their summer in math and language arts classes, taking tennis lessons, and swimming and studying robotics, thanks in part to grants from the Investors Foundation and Roma Bank Community Foundation totaling \$5,000.

According to the Every Child Valued website, in the early 1970s, a small group of people from the Lawrence Township community identified a profound need for affordable housing and constructed Eggerts Crossing Village (EC Village), Lawrence’s first subsidized, family-rental housing development. EC Village has been operated by Lawrence Non-Profit Housing since 1974. A partnership was created in 1999, between Lawrence Non-Profit Housing, EC Village and the Lawrence Township Public Schools, creating the Every Child Valued programs. The mission of Every Child Valued is to motivate the young residents of Lawrence Township to reach their highest potential as educated and fulfilled adults, to strengthen families, to combat racial, cultural, and socioeconomic isolation, and to build a sense of community.

Executive Director Nicole Cody, said ECV’s programs aim to build a continuous developmental and educational experience for “Lawrence Township children in grades K-6 from low-income households and for those who might be at-risk of disengaging in school. There are four primary programs: After School Program, Summer Enrichment Program, a Tutoring and Mentoring Program for middle and high school students and Walkabout in the Natural World. “The grants from the Investors Foundation and Roma Bank Community Foundation are helping to support our Summer Enrichment program,” explained Cody. “We are so pleased that the Foundations elected to support our program. It truly helps the children overcome that academic drop-off that happens so often in the summer, and they have so much fun while they are learning.”

Every Child Valued applied for the grants from the Investors and Roma Bank Community Foundations, which support non-profit organizations that enrich the diverse communities served by Investors Bank. Roma Bank became part of Investors Bank in December 2013.

Cody said the Summer Enrichment Program is a six-week program operating Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. She said in the morning, the students participate in literacy, math, and social studies through hands-on projects, educational games, etc. There is a learning coach and a volunteer for every five children. In the afternoons, there are arts and crafts, and the ECV staff plans swimming and other recreational activities. There often are day trips scheduled for Friday.

Cynthia Ricker, Investors Bank Vice President and Lawrenceville Branch Manager presented the grants to ECV. “We are so glad that we can support the Summer Enrichment Program at Every Child Valued,” said Ricker. “It is so important to keep children engaged in learning throughout the summer months when school is out. This is a wonderful program for the community.”



Photo Caption: Every Child Valued recently received grants totaling \$5,000 from the Investors Foundation and the Roma Bank Community Foundation. Roma Bank became part of Investors Bank in December 2013. Pictured in the photo at the playground at Eggerts Crossing Village are the children in the Summer Enrichment Program and (holding checks, from left) ECV Executive Director Nicole Cody, ECV Executive Director Emeritus/Founder Fred Vereen, Jr., ECV Program Director Arzaga Dillard, and Investors Bank Vice President and Lawrenceville Branch Manager Cynthia Ricker.

About the Investors Foundation

Investors Bank created the Investors Foundation in 2005 to support the communities Investors Bank serves. Investors Foundation supports initiatives in the arts, youth development, health and human services, education and affordable housing. Investors Foundation works to improve the lives of its customers and neighbors.

About Investors Bank

Investors Bank, headquartered in Short Hills, New Jersey, is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With over \$23 billion in assets and a network of more than 150 retail branches, Investors delivers personalized services and products tailored to the needs of its customers.

Corporate Office

101 JFK Parkway • Short Hills, NJ • 07078

855-iBank4U (422-6548) • myinvestorsbank.com



investors Bank

Investors' banking services include complete deposit, loan and cash management products for consumers and businesses. Investors Bank. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender.

About Every Child Valued

Every Child Valued (ECV) provides comprehensive academic enrichment programs in cooperation with the Lawrence Township Public Schools and other organizations in order to establish high expectations and achieve excellent academic performance by participating students from Eggerts Crossing Village and Lawrence Township, New Jersey. With these programs and the consistent support and encouragement from highly engaged parents, ECV envisions a future in which the historic pattern of "achievement gaps" is permanently eliminated in Eggerts Crossing Village and the surrounding community. For more information please go to the website at www.everychildvalued.org.

###