

November 13, 2019

Bank of America Provides REACH Riverside and Easterseals Funding and Leadership Training to Advance Economic Mobility in Delaware

\$200,000 in Funding to Each Nonprofit and Leadership Resources are Part of Bank's Neighborhood Builders® Program, Which Strengthens Nonprofit Leadership to Help Communities Thrive

Delaware – REACH Riverside and Easterseals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore have been named as the 2019 Bank of America [Neighborhood Builders®](#) awardees for Delaware. The nonprofits were selected for their efforts to promote economic mobility through community revitalization and innovative services for children and adults with disabilities.

As an awardee, each organization receives a \$200,000 grant, a year of leadership training for the executive director and an emerging leader at the organization, a network of peer organizations across the U.S., and the opportunity to access capital to expand their impact. Over the past 15 years, Bank of America has invested \$240 million in 49 communities through Neighborhood Builders, partnering with more than 1,000 nonprofits and helping more than 2,000 nonprofit leaders strengthen their leadership skills.

“REACH Riverside and Easterseals play significant roles in revitalizing the communities we serve,” said Chip Rossi, Delaware market president, Bank of America. “We’re proud to support two local nonprofits through our Neighborhood Builders program that are leading the charge to advance sustainable growth in the community and address tough issues related to economic mobility.”

REACH is an acronym for the organization's holistic approach to community revitalization by means of Redevelopment, Education and Community Health. The REACH Riverside initiative is built upon the highly successful neighborhood revitalization strategy originally developed by Purpose Built Communities in Atlanta and in use by 27 other Purpose Built network affiliates across the country. The vision of the REACH Riverside initiative is to transform the Riverside neighborhood into a healthy and vibrant mixed-income community while creating pathways out of poverty for the lower-income families who live there.

“We are honored to receive this grant from Bank of America supporting our work of transforming the Riverside neighborhood into a healthy, vibrant place to live and thrive,” said Logan Herring, chief executive officer at REACH Riverside.

Easterseals provides exceptional services, education, outreach, and advocacy so that people living with autism and other disabilities can live, learn, work and play in our communities. For 100 years nationally, Easterseals has served as an indispensable resource for individuals with disabilities, veterans, seniors and their families. [Easterseals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore](#) offers a range of services, including children's therapies, job training, assistive technology, recreational camping, day programs for adults with physical or intellectual disabilities, and respite services for caregivers.

“Easterseals is pleased to be a recipient of the Neighborhood Builders grant. The funding will be used to expand our services to the community by offering children and families Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy,” Easterseals President/CEO, Kenan Sklenar, says. “Studies show that ABA therapy is especially effective for children when started before age 3. We are grateful to have Bank of America’s support to serve young children with autism.”

Since 2006, through its Neighborhood Builders program, Bank of America has partnered with 21 nonprofits in Delaware, investing more than \$4 million to provide financial education and economic mobility opportunities within the Delaware area. The invitation-only program is highly competitive, and leading members of the community participated in a collaborative selection process to identify this year’s awardees. Examples of the leadership training topics include human capital management, increasing financial sustainability, and storytelling. Neighborhood Builders is just one example of how Bank of America deploys capital in communities, builds cross-sector partnerships, and promotes socioeconomic progress as part of its approach to responsible growth.

Bank of America

At Bank of America, we’re guided by a common purpose to help make financial lives better, through the power of every connection. We’re delivering on this through responsible growth with a focus on our environmental, social and governance (ESG) leadership. ESG is embedded across our eight lines of business and reflects how we help fuel the global economy, build trust and credibility, and represent a company that people want to work for, invest in and do business with. It’s demonstrated in the inclusive and supportive workplace we create for our employees, the responsible products and services we offer our clients, and the impact we make around the world in helping local economies thrive. An important part of this work is forming strong partnerships with nonprofits and advocacy groups, such as community, consumer and environmental organizations, to bring together our collective networks and expertise to achieve greater impact. Learn more at about.bankofamerica.com, and connect with us on Twitter ([@BofA_News](https://twitter.com/BofA_News)).

For more Bank of America news, including dividend announcements and other important information, visit the [Bank of America newsroom](#). Click [here](#) to register for news email alerts.

www.bankofamerica.com

###

Reporters May Contact:

Emily Kanter, for Bank of America, 215-434-7195
ekanter@mavenagency.com