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October 5, 2017

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MIDDLESEX HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WINS \$20,000 GRANT CONTEST

Cromwell, CT— The Middlesex Habitat for Humanity of CT is one of three winners of Liberty Bank Foundation’s 20th Anniversary Grant competition. It will receive a grant of \$20,000 to fund expanded operations.

“It’s not very often that we have the pleasure of making grants of this size,” said Liberty Bank President & CEO Chandler J. Howard. “Given the milestone in our history, we wanted to do something special for the communities we serve.”

The grant will be used to fund a new position at Habitat’s ReStore of Cromwell. As the ReStore continues to grow, an additional employee is needed to facilitate volunteer relations and the shopping experience.

Christopher Aresco, director of finance and operations, Middlesex Habitat for Humanity, said “This grant is especially important to us because we weren’t in a position to take this leap on our own-- there was no ‘Plan B.’ This grant allows us to take the next step and we are very appreciative of community partners such as the Liberty Bank Foundation who continue to show that you don’t have to lift a hammer to help us build a house.”

The agency was among 82 that submitted video contest entries explaining how they would use \$20,000 to make a difference for the people they serve. Nine finalists were selected and three winners were chosen by public voting on the Liberty Bank Foundation website between September 5 and 15. The other winners were the Windham Regional Community Council and the Windham Regional No Freeze Hospitality Center, Inc.

Sue Murphy, Liberty Bank Foundation executive director, said, “Our goal with this competition was not only to fund some great ideas, but also to call attention to the wonderful work our nonprofit partners are doing in our communities.”

Winners were honored at a Liberty Bank Foundation conference and luncheon held at St. Clements Castle on October 3.

Celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, the Liberty Bank Foundation has awarded over \$10.7 million in grants to nonprofit organizations within Liberty Bank's market area since its inception. The foundation seeks to improve the quality of life for people of low or moderate income by investing in three areas: education to promote economic success for children and families; affordable housing; and basic human needs, such as food and shelter. Along with its grantmaking, the foundation strives to foster the convening and collaboration of nonprofits, funders, business, and government to address community issues.

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(photo caption)

Middlesex Habitat for Humanity of CT was one of three winners of a \$20,000 grant as part of the Liberty Bank Foundation's 20th Anniversary Grant Competition. Winners were announced at a conference and celebration held at St. Clements Castle on October 3. Liberty Bank Foundation Chairman of the Board Mike Helfgott (l) and Liberty Bank President and CEO Chandler J. Howard (r) present funding to be used to expand operations at the Cromwell Restore to Sarah Bird, executive director and Christopher Aresco, director of finance and operations, Middlesex Habitat for Humanity of CT.