

Pacific Premier Bank Donates \$100,000 in Support of The Bridge Builders Foundation's Thriving Under The Influence Mentor Program

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The Bridge Builders Foundation (BBF) is pleased to announce that Pacific Premier Bank has partnered to support expansion of the “Thriving Under The Influence” Mentoring program with a grant of \$100,000. This program is designed to address disparities in quality education among minority and low income communities by delivering quality education throughout Los Angeles County. Bridge Builders plans to serve an additional 100 students during the 2020-2021 school year, starting with 50 students from Inglewood High School located in the Inglewood Unified School District, and 50 students through a “Distance Learning” mentoring platform.

The weekly mentor program seeks to empower youth with values, attitudes, and strategies required to thrive in school, at home, and in the community. The program focuses on strengthening self-awareness, expanding understandings of environmental influences, and developing skills to work constructively and collectively with others.

Founded in 1998, BBF seeks to remove the barriers of race, poverty, ignorance, and despair through mentoring, educational support, health care awareness, and community uplift. The foundation currently serves over 350 youth, through its three (3) dedicated programs, and several hundred others through community empowerment and education initiatives.

According to BBF President, James Breedlove “Pacific Premier Bank is a recurring partner, and made an investment in our program, and underserved communities long before the recent unrest. This partnership will be extremely impactful, as it will serve vulnerable, ethnic minority youth that are usually hard to reach, and harder to retain.”

Executive Vice President/ Head of Fair & Responsible Banking, Sherri V. Scott, said, “We’re grateful for the opportunity to support the communities in which we work, live, and do business. Partnerships, such as the one with Bridge Builders Foundation, are integral to the Bank’s commitment to addressing daily challenges within our communities, including those related to education and economic disparities.”

BBF programs are richly staffed with African American men and women mentors, professors and field practitioners, supporting the BBF’s “What they see - They can be” objective. Over 80% of BBF’s student population qualify as low to moderate income, and most report several “lifetime firsts” during field trips and hands on engagement activities. All BBF programs are provided **FREE OF CHARGE**.

About Pacific Premier Bank

Pacific Premier Bank is one of the strongest-performing and fastest-growing banks in the nation. Founded in 1983 and headquartered in Irvine, California, Pacific Premier serves businesses and individuals throughout the United States. Pacific Premier offers a wide array of banking products and services for small, middle-market, and corporate businesses and professionals. Pacific Premier partners with community based organizations and other stakeholders to strengthen communities and foster growth.