



Immediate Release - January 5, 2017

Abilities receives \$5,000 from Cathay Bank Foundation

Washington, NJ – Abilities of Northwest Jersey, Inc. is pleased to announce the receipt of \$5,000 from the Cathay Bank Foundation for the agency’s STAR program, which prepares young adults with disabilities for a life of community-based employment and educational opportunities.

STAR is a pilot pre-employment skill assessment, training and internship program offered to area high school students ages 16-21 with disabilities. Services provided include classroom instruction, interest assessment and career exploration, job coaching and supported employment. STAR is a classroom and community-based collaboration between Abilities and Warren County Community College (WCCC), with instruction provided on the WCCC campus in Washington.

“We are grateful for Cathay Bank Foundation’s generosity,” said Abilities CEO Cynthia B. Wildermuth. “Abilities welcomes the support of the foundations and businesses that assist the agency in providing employment and educational opportunities for those with disabilities. We greatly appreciate Cathay Bank Foundation’s investment in our exceptional services.”

Abilities of Northwest Jersey, Inc. is a not-for-profit agency founded in 1974 and dedicated to improving the quality of life and employability of persons with different abilities through vocational training and individualized services. Abilities provides a full array of employment and day habilitation services for individuals with disabilities and manages six program locations throughout Warren County, providing services and supports to more than 350 people daily in Warren, Hunterdon, Morris and Sussex counties. Abilities offers pre-vocational and vocational rehabilitation, student transition services, supported community employment, job placement/follow-along, and center and community-based services.

Cathay Bank Foundation’s mission is to enhance the growth and success of communities in which the bank serves, including New Jersey.

For more information about Abilities of Northwest Jersey visit the agency website at www.abilitiesnw.com or call (908) 689-1118.

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