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PEOPLE'S UNITED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS \$4,000 TO YMCA OF GREATER NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

MANCHESTER, NH – The People's United Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of People's United Bank, announced today that it has awarded \$4,000 to the YMCA of Greater Nashua, in support of the Y's new literacy program.

"We are proud that the YMCA of Greater Nashua was selected as the first Y in New Hampshire to introduce the Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program. We chose to host the pilot program at Ledge Street Elementary School. National research has shown that low-income students lose 2.5 to 3 months of learning EACH summer and this is cumulative over their school career. By working extensively with Ledge Street Elementary first and second graders that are struggling with their reading skills, the Y's national evidence based Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program enabled these kids to begin the next school year ahead, instead of falling further behind. The reading program also includes high quality enrichment activities that intentionally align with literacy lessons including Art, Music, Character Development, Physical Activity, Field Trips and Nutrition Education. Family engagement is also part of the model for success. Parents pledge to read to their children, attend an orientation and workshops to learn about the program and how to support their child. WE are eager to expand our program this summer," said Mike LaChance, YMCA of Greater Nashua CEO.

Quote from Agency

Dianne Mercier, Officer, People's United Community Foundation, and New Hampshire President, People's United Bank, said, "There is nothing more critical for our youth today than a good education and the support they need to stay in school. The YMCA Summer Learning Loss Prevention Program ensures that more kids in Nashua graduate from high school."

About People's United Community Foundation:

Established in 2007, People's United Community Foundation was formed to help support programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for citizens in the communities that People's United Bank serves. People's United Bank, founded in 1842 and serving customers from New York to Maine through a network of more than 400 branches, is the largest independent bank headquartered in New England. The Foundation places special emphasis on programs designed to promote economic self-sufficiency, education and improved conditions for low-income families and neighborhoods. The funding priorities of the Foundation include community development, youth development, and affordable housing.

About the YMCA of Greater Nashua:

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The YMCA of Greater Nashua facilities engage over 30,000 men, women and children annually – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. For more information about the Y visit www.nmymca.org.

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