

Pathfinder Community Connections Honors Graduates of Financial Literacy Program

Pathfinder Community Connections, the community development division of Pathfinder Services, Inc., hosted a “Graduation Party” for 21 children who have completed a Youth Financial Literacy Project at the Primetime Community Center, located at 3701 South Calhoun Street in Fort Wayne.

At the graduation, each child received a certificate of completion, a “Hands on Banking” CD and a \$50 check for participating plus a few smaller prizes. If the child achieves their savings goals determined in the class, NeighborWorks America will provide a matching grant of up to \$50 per child based on how much of the savings goal was accomplished.

“We are extremely grateful for all of the support we have received from our sponsors of this project,” stated Steven Morgan, Homeownership and Foreclosure Counselor at Pathfinder Community Connections. “It has been a gratifying and learning experience to educate 21 children on the importance of financial literacy and teaching money management skills that will help equip each of them with the tools they need to defer gratification and save for the future,” Morgan added.

Also at the graduation, Rosa Wheeler from Wells Fargo Bank presented a check to Pathfinder Community Connections for \$1,000 at the event to support the project.

Pathfinder Community Connections would like to thank sponsors of the project including:

- NeighborWorks America who provided a \$2,000 grant for this project,
- Wells Fargo Bank provided \$1,000, plus their "Hands on Banking" curriculum that each student received a CD with the "HoB" curriculum recorded on it as well as three employees who either facilitated or instructed portions of the curriculum.
- Fifth Third Bank who provided two staff who taught the “savings and checking account” portion of the curriculum,
- The Primetime Community Center (a ministry of the Fort Wayne area Youth for Christ) who contributed space, use of A/V equipment during the week of classes as well as staff for the project,
- The East Allen County School system who provided translation services for our 13 Burmese-students.
- H.H. Gregg which provided two net book computers at their cost, and were awarded to the two students who scored best on the final assessment/quiz.
- Pizza Hut who donated lunch gift coupons,
- Sophia Rosales, who taught several of the modules and helped facilitate, and also donated cupcakes for the graduation party. Ms. Rosales is a police officer with the FWPD.
- The Burmese Advocacy Center who assisted in translation for one of the sessions,
- Pathfinder Community Connections staff

For more information on the services of Pathfinder Community Connections please contact them in their Fort Wayne office at (866) 892-0513 or their Huntington Office at (800) 310-9510.

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Pathfinder Community Connections is the community development division of Pathfinder Services and was created in 1997. Pathfinder Community Connections guides potential home buyers through the entire process of pre-purchase education, loan packaging, closing on the home, post purchase counseling, and when in need foreclosure prevention. Pathfinder Community Connections can be found online at www.cchomes.org.

Pathfinder Community Connections is a member of the NeighborWorks America, which was created by NeighborWorks America to improve homeownership opportunities for low- and moderate-income families, provide financial education, improve financial literacy, rebuild and repair properties; develop affordable multifamily units, and, use innovative strategies to improve safety and revitalize communities across the nation. Collectively, NeighborWorks America and the NeighborWorks network have been able to:

- Invest nearly \$20 billion in America's urban, rural, and suburban communities;
- Create the nation's largest force of certified homeownership education counselors and foreclosure intervention counselors;
- Provide homeownership counseling to more than 500,000 families;
- Assist more than 80,000 families of modest means to achieve their dream of homeownership;
- Develop, own and manage over 73,000 affordable, high quality rental units;
- Rehabilitate more than 85,000 homes using state-of-the-art methods, including green and healthy building techniques;
- Invest in rebuilding efforts in hurricane-affected communities across the Gulf Coast; and
- Mobilize hundreds of thousands of volunteers to revitalize communities.