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TD Charitable Foundation Approves Contribution to CTI's Entrepreneurship Center

Lowell – The TD Charitable Foundation has approved a \$10,000.00 contribution to the Entrepreneurship Center which supports small businesses.

TD Bank believes that organizations such as Community Teamwork and the Entrepreneurship Center play a significant role in sustaining vibrant and thriving communities. TD Bank through its charitable giving arm, the TD Charitable Foundation, carries a legacy of supporting not-for-profit institutions and their important work throughout our region. Since its inception in 2002, the foundation has contributed over \$295 million in grant funding to not-for-profit organizations in the communities where we work, live, and do business.

The Grant is to be used in support of approximately 25 businesses. The focus will be on the E-Center's strategic goal of supporting disadvantaged, minority-/women-owned businesses, with a specific target on Gateway Cities, and providing entrepreneurs training and access to financial software, namely QuickBooks.

"We are pleased to support your ongoing community-based efforts and extend our very best wishes for continued success," shared **Jennifer Gabriel**, Senior Regional Giving Manager, TD Charitable Foundation, along with **Marshall Sugarman**, Commercial Market President, Eastern Massachusetts, TD Bank.

The Entrepreneurship Center at CTI was founded to provide entrepreneurs from ethnically and economically diverse groups with the education, tools and access to SBA micro loan products necessary to launch, expand and sustain small business.

Charles Smith, Director of the Entrepreneurship Center shared, "Financial reporting is a vital component for small business to obtain and measure their growth, inventory and other factors that are the essence of running a business. At the E-Center, being able to offer QuickBooks as an option for entrepreneurs and train them with a dedicated employee on installation and use is a game changer for small and micro businesses who often don't have access to these tools or it may be cost prohibitive. By the E-Center being able to help out entrepreneurs in 6 cohorts of 10 throughout 2023, we can further small business growth and prepare them for their next stage of business."

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About Community Teamwork

Community Teamwork is a catalyst for social change. Our driving mission is to help people help themselves with childcare, family supports, nutrition, fuel assistance, housing, skills training, employment, financial education, and individual asset and small business development. As a Community Action Agency, a Regional Housing Agency, and a Community Development Corporation, Community Teamwork helps nearly 54,000 individuals from 71 cities and towns in northeastern Massachusetts gain greater economic independence. For more information, please visit www.commteam.org

About the Entrepreneurship Center

The Entrepreneurship Center was founded to provide entrepreneurs from ethnically and economically diverse groups with the education, tools and access to SBA micro loan products necessary to launch, expand and sustain small business. www.commteam.org/entrepreneurship-center-business-assistance.

About TD Bank/TD Charitable Foundation

TD Bank through its charitable giving arm, the TD Charitable Foundation, carries a legacy of supporting not-for-profit institutions and their important work throughout the region. In support of this mission, TD recently launched **TD Ready Commitment**, which refocuses their giving to impact positive change, increasing financial security, environmental quality, inclusive communities and equitable health outcomes. For more information, visit

<https://www.td.com/corporate-responsibility/ready-commitment/>.