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Habitat Bergen Youth United receives State Farm grant

SEPTEMBER 24, 2015 LAST UPDATED: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2015, 12:31 AM
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PHOTO COURTESY OF HABITAT BERGEN

State Farm's \$5,000 grant to the Habitat Bergen Youth United club will contribute to the funding of an affordable housing project in Bergen County, according to Blu Frankel, Habitat Bergen Youth United president.

ORADELL – Members from Habitat for Humanity of Bergen County's (Habitat Bergen) Youth United club and State Farm came together this summer for a recognition event and check presentation. Habitat Bergen's Youth United Club was one of 10 Habitat affiliates fortunate enough to be awarded a \$5,000 grant. These funds will enable Habitat Bergen to purchase the building materials needed to continue Superstorm Sandy critical home repairs.

Throughout the 2014-2015 school year Youth United members were required to raise \$4,000 through various advocacy and fundraising events as part of the grant requirement.

Member from Habitat Bergen's Youth United club and State Farm came together on the jobsite this July for a recognition event and check presentation. Blu Frankel, Youth United president, accepted the check from State Farm representative Jennifer Young Farm and Anita DaSilva. Amongst those who showed support for Youth United at the presentation were NJ Assemblyman Gary Schaer and Moonachie Mayor Dennis Vaccaro. Both Habitat Bergen and State Farm received honorable citations from Senator Paul Sarlo, Assemblywoman Marlene Caride and Assemblyman Gary Schaer, for rebuilding from the devastation of Superstorm Sandy.

Youth United mobilizes youth to fully fund and build a house with their local Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Students learn leadership and teamwork skills and gain a better understanding of their communities and the need for simple, decent and affordable housing.

All students are engaged in fundraising, education and advocacy activities, while those over 16 help with actual home construction.

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Atlantic City Convention Center

-  **Jeff Tobe, CSP - Sunday Keynote**
Author & Certified Speaking Professional
H.R. Transforms—Get 'Em Engaged!
-  **Steve Miranda, SPHR, GPHR - Monday Keynote**
Managing Director at Cornell University Center for Advanced HR Studies
Ten for Tomorrow – And Today
-  **Bonnie St. John - Tuesday Keynote**
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"We're really appreciative of this grant because the money will contribute to the funding of an affordable housing project in Bergen County," said Blu Frankel, Habitat Bergen Youth United president.

"State Farm's support of Habitat Bergen's youth programs provides our local youth with invaluable leadership opportunities where they learn firsthand how to mobilize over 100 students in the community to develop and execute fundraising strategies, coordinate volunteer and advocacy events, and achieve measurable goals," said Angela King, Habitat Bergen director of volunteers. "As these students further our mission to provide affordable housing in Bergen County, they are simultaneously developing the leadership tools they will need to set and realize their own dreams."

For more information about Bergen Youth United, contact King at AngelaK@habitatbergen.org or visit <http://www.bergenyouthunited.com>

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER

24

10:00 AM

William Paterson University Visual Arts
William Paterson University

ALL DAY

Installation by Ramond Saá
William Paterson University

ALL DAY

Honorable Mention: by Artie Van Blarcum
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