

# Citizens Bank and NBC 10 honor 2010 Champions in Action

PROVIDENCE – Citizens Bank and NBC 10 held a breakfast reception on Monday, January 31 to honor the 2010 Champions in Action. The 2010 Champions were Amos House in Providence, Connecting for Children and Families in Woonsocket, Southside Community Land Trust in Providence and Kids First in Providence.

Each quarter, Citizens Bank selects a nonprofit organization in Rhode Island that performs outstanding work in a designated social field as a Champion in Action. Each recipient is awarded \$25,000 in unrestricted funds from the Citizens Bank Foundation, as well as media coverage from NBC 10 including public service announcements and television profiles. Further support is provided through colleague volunteers from both Citizens Bank and NBC 10. Public relations support is also offered and includes advertising in Citizens Bank branches and ATMs as well as online promotions at citizensbank.com and Turnto10.com.

“Citizens Bank is proud to add these four remarkable agencies into our Champions in Action network,” said Ellen Alemany, Chairman & CEO, Citizens Financial Group, Inc. “The work they do each day in our community is critical to the success of all Rhode Islanders. We can’t think of four more deserving agencies.”

“NBC 10 is honored to congratulate the four Champions in Action for their outstanding service to the community,” said Lisa Churchville,

President and General Manager of NBC 10. “We are proud to partner with Citizens Bank on this community outreach program to recognize these organizations that are so vital to our state.”

The first Champion for 2010 in the category of workforce development was Amos House. Amos House was recognized for:

- ◆ Providing innovative job training programs that work in conjunction with supportive social services.

- ◆ Its micro-businesses that have gained recognition as a national model for its approach to re-entry, job training, employment, social services and housing.

In April, Connecting for Children and Families in Woonsocket was named the second quarter Champion in Action for family support. Connecting for Children and Families was recognized for:

- ◆ Offering educational programs, health initiatives and social services for more than 2,000 families annually.

- ◆ Its comprehensive family support center that provides adequate food, clothing, shelter, utility assistance and referrals for both health and shelter.

Southside Community Land Trust was selected as the third quarter Champion in recognition for its environmental efforts in:

- ◆ Creating partnerships with neighbors, community groups and supporters to transform vacant, polluted urban lots into vibrant and productive food gardens.

- ◆ Educating more than 3,000 gardeners in environ-

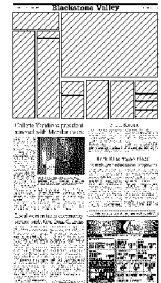
mental health through workshops and mentoring programs that contribute to environmental stewardship, healthier and stronger neighborhoods, and encourage micro-enterprise.

Kids First, the final recipient for 2010 in the healthy communities category, was recognized for:

- ◆ Delivering hands-on, behavior-focused education, training and professional development programs focused on food and nutrition, physical activity, gardening and food safety.

- ◆ Its collaboration with state agencies, schools and local farms to provide locally grown food to school districts through the Rhode Island Farm to School project.

Prior Rhode Island Champions in Action include: Bayside Family Healthcare in North Kingstown, the House of Hope in Warwick, The Providence Black Repertory Company in Providence, the Woonsocket Neighborhood Development Corporation in Woonsocket, McAuley House in Providence, TechACCESS in Warwick, Sojourner House in Providence, Pawtucket Citizens Development Corporation in Pawtucket, Rhode Island Free Clinic in Providence, The Genesis Center in Providence, the Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown, New Urban Arts in Providence, West Elmwood Housing Development Corporation in Providence, Tides Family Services located throughout the state. Also, Community MusicWorks in Providence, the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in Newport, Welcome House of South County in South Kingstown’s Peace Dale neighborhood, Franklin Court Independent Living in Bristol, RiverzEdge Arts Project in Woonsocket, Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council in Providence, The Institute for the Study and Practice for Nonviolence in Providence,



Church Community Housing Corporation in Newport, Goodwill Industries of Rhode Island in Providence, and

Youth in Action in Providence; Molar Express in Cranston, Everett Dance Theatre in Providence, Olneyville Housing Corporation in Providence, the

ASPIRE Program at the Rhode Island Foster Parents Association in East Providence and the Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center in Warwick.



Submitted photo

From left, NBC 10 News Anchors Dan Jaehnig and Patrice Wood; Amos House Executive Director Eileen Hayes; Connecting for Children and Families Executive Director Terry Curtin; Citizens Financial Group Chairman & CEO Ellen Alemany; Southside Community Land Trust Executive Director Katherine Brown; Kids First Executive Director Dorothy Brayley; Citizens Bank, Rhode Island President Ned Handy.