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County Digest

Englewood Cliffs

Table to Table earns 'Neighborhood' award

Table to Table, a food rescue program, was named a Bank of America Neighborhood Builder for 2016. Through the Neighborhood Builders program, the bank provides non-profits with "leadership development, \$200,000 in flexible funding, a network of peer organizations across the U.S. and the opportunity to access capital in order to expand their impact in the community."

Ilene Isaacs, executive director of the Englewood Cliffs-based Table to Table commented, "this Neighborhood Builders Award could not be timelier and there could be no better partner than Bank of America. Through Neighborhood Builders, our organization will be given the opportunity to evolve strategically, creating an even stronger and more effective program."

She added, "Everyone at Table to Table is committed to benefitting from every aspect of the program's training and resources, enabling us to uphold our long term vow to be this area's reliable source of fresh, nutritious food."

Since 2004, through Neighborhood Builders, Bank of America has helped nonprofits "create greater impact in their communities and better prepare for the future by providing the tools and resources they need to develop stronger strategic plans, chart a succession plan, navigate through tough economic times, and enhance their funding opportunities."

The awardees are selected by a local market selection committee with representation by local community leaders.

Table to Table is a community-based, not-for-profit, food rescue program that "collects fresh and perishable food which would otherwise be wasted and delivers it to organizations that serve hungry people in Bergen, Hudson, Essex and Passaic counties." With a fleet of refrigerated trucks, perishable food is picked up from more than 200 donors (restaurants, supermarkets, food distributors and hospital/corporate cafeterias), and then delivered to more than 100 community partners. These partners include soup kitchens, homeless shelters, elder care facilities, day care centers, homes for victims and children of domestic violence, after-school programs and pantries serving the working poor. Food is delivered on the day of donation and is provided free of charge.

Last year, the organization reported it delivered enough food for more than 16 million meals. For more information, go to www.tabletotable.org.