



Contact: Kelly Magee
(646) 618-6033/ kelly@risheller.com

L+M Development Partners Announces \$185,000 in Grants to South Bronx Organizations

L+M's Placed-Based Philanthropy Targets Communities with Existing or Slated Development, High Levels of Need

New York, NY (January 18, 2017)— L+M Development Partners, one of the city's largest developers of affordable housing, today announced \$185,000 in grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000 to six South Bronx organizations: The Knowledge House, The Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center, The Point CDC, La Finca del Sur/South Bronx Farmers, Let's Get Ready, and Young Women's Leadership Network. The grants were announced at an event held at L+M's Park Avenue South office and included a reception followed by a roundtable discussion with Ron Moelis, CEO and Co-Founder of L+M, about how real estate developers can partner with community organizations and government to strengthen the South Bronx.

L+M's support for local and community-based organizations goes hand and hand with its development of affordable housing in communities like the South Bronx, East New York and Brownsville. It is widely recognized that affordable housing dramatically improves social and economic outcomes for low-income families. In addition to enhancing housing options for more families, L+M focuses its financial support in three key areas to help build communities that are healthy, vibrant and safe: youth education and enrichment; creating jobs and expanding training opportunities; and improving residents' health and access to nutritious food.

"These organizations were chosen based on their ability to positively impact people's lives, their strong leadership, and their established track record of success in the South Bronx," said **Debbie Kenyon, Vice Chairman and Senior Partner at L+M Development Partners**. "I want to congratulate these six organizations and I look forward to working with them to foster positive change in the South Bronx in the year ahead."

This year's awardees are:

The Knowledge House: to provide year-long training in computer coding and software design to up to 20 Lafayette-Boynton youth residents and to support The Bronx Digital Pipeline. The Bronx Digital Pipeline aims to increase tech literacy and resources for Bronx youth in order to cultivate interest in careers in the tech ecosystem, such as software and web developer jobs.

The Mary Mitchell Family and Youth Center: to expand an existing healthy food buying club to include cooking demonstrations at the Mary Mitchell Center, Hostos College and other sites, including L+M/C+C properties, schools, clinics and non-profit organizations. The food buying club, La Canasta, resulted from youth-led research that explored the high rate of diet-related diseases in the Bronx. Every week, the La Canasta team goes to the Hunts Point Terminal

Market and purchases food at wholesale prices for free delivery to its members in non-profit organizations, assisted living apartment buildings, public housing, private apartment buildings, shelters, and religious organizations.

The Point CDC: to support the organization’s Blank Plate Empowered Meals Project to help prevent diet-related diseases in the South Bronx by improving food access at the neighborhood level through the following initiatives:

- Blank Plate Afterschool Program – healthy food and nutrition workshops for grades 1-8;
- Bank Plate Culinary Art and Design – 18 weekly workshops for up to 20 youth ages 14-21 to practice cooking skills and prepare weekly healthy, culturally congruent meal for community members; and
- Blank Plate South Bronx Food Conference – day-long event with workshops on creative food preparation, urban gardening basics and a Slam Bake Competition where participants compete for best dish voted on by panel of judges.

La Finca del Sur/South Bronx Farmers: to strengthen the capacity of La Finca del Sur, the first woman-led urban farm in the Bronx. With additional support, La Finca would build and install irrigation and energy-saving structures on the farm, employ a firm that would help to refine its financial accounting systems, and employ a part-time farm manager.

Let’s Get Ready: to support the College Access Program at Hostos Community College, which offers high school students SAT preparation and assistance with the college admissions process. Each program serves 40-60 high school students and is led by two college student Site Directors who manage 15-20 volunteer college Coaches. Coaches are college student volunteers who receive extensive training. Each nine-week program includes: 30 hours of intensive SAT preparation; two diagnostic SAT exams; 15 hours of assistance with college selection, applications and financial aid/scholarships, including special sessions with college admissions and financial aid officers; and college visits.

Young Women’s Leadership Network: to support placement of a full-time, school-based Director of College Counseling at the Laboratory School for Finance and Technology located at 360 East 145th Street in the South Bronx. The grant will serve nearly 685 predominantly low-income students of color and offer the following activities:

- College trips and fairs; SAT registration;
- One-on-one college guidance and college application workshops;
- Financial aid enrollment; and
- Access to a College Transition Coach for graduating seniors.

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About L+M Development Partners

Since its inception in 1984, L+M Development Partners, Inc. has been an innovator in developing quality affordable, mixed-income and market rate housing, while improving the neighborhoods in which it works. A full-service firm, L+M works from conception to completion, handling development, investment, construction and management with creativity

that leads the industry. L+M is responsible for more than \$6 billion in development, construction and investment, and has created or preserved more than 17,000 high-quality residential units in New York's tristate area, the West Coast and Gulf Coast regions. L+M is a double bottom line company, where its success is measured not only in financial returns but also by the positive impact it makes. For more information, please visit: <http://lmdevpartners.com>.