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For Immediate Release:

The Middle Bucks Institute of Technology's Philanthropy Today Club students hosted a breakfast for the local community organizations who received grants to improve the quality of life in Bucks County for a total donation of \$20,000.00

Jamison, PA- The Middle Bucks Institute of Technology's Philanthropy Today Club is the proud recipient of the Norman Raab Foundation Grant and the Heenan Foundation Grant. This is the ninth year that the students have been honored with this educational opportunity and grant renewal.

The Philanthropy Today students recently hosted a breakfast for the local community organizations on who received \$20K in grants and presented their findings and final report to the selected organizations founders and CEOs. They were also recognized by the First Assistant District Attorney, Ms. Jennifer Schorn.

The purpose of the Philanthropy Today Club at MBIT is to teach students about charity, how to give responsibly through grant allocations and learn how to identify our community needs. The students are given a specific challenge each year from the Heenan Grant. With the Raab Grant, the students conduct a needs assessment of their community. They develop a mission statement, research and visit to determine which local non-profits align with their mission before providing the grants to the selected non-profit organizations that make a difference in the community.

The students created and shared the 2023 Mission Statements:

Raab Grant Mission Statement:

MBIT Philanthropy Today Club will help members of our community facing struggles with mental health, sexual abuse, and addiction to prevent further damage and obstacles.

Heenan Grant Mission Statement:

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology's Philanthropy Today Club's mission with the Heenan Challenge Grant is to re-design, re-furnish and re-decorate two adjacent victims' waiting rooms on the fourth floor of the Bucks County Courthouse. The students in the Public Safety, Commercial Art & Advertising Design, Computerized Drafting & Engineering Technology, Early Childhood Care and Education, and Multimedia Technology students collaborated to create the new space. The room will be dedicated on May 17th at 9am and District Attorney Mr. Matthew Weintraub and the victim's team will recognize their efforts at the Courthouse. Commissioner Harvie will be in attendance.

The Philanthropy Today Club visited and reviewed eleven different Bucks County organizations and came to consensus to fund five of them.

Grant recipients include:

Good Friends, Inc. \$2,000.00.

The grant money will go towards renovation of the living facilities for the residents at Good Friends Inc.

"Preparing tomorrow's workforce today"

The Council of Southeast Pennsylvania Inc. \$1,000.00.

The funds are for landscaping and fencing around the generator in the Women's Recovery Center.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) \$2,500.00

The grant money should be directed specifically to NAMI's small talk program geared toward elementary age students.

A Woman's Place \$2,500.00

The grant money is designated to be used for a new safe house. It is the first pledge for this new effort.

NOVA \$2,000.00

This grant money is to provide safe transportation of victims to appointments, court, back home, etc.

Coordinating and advising the Philanthropy Today students at MBIT is Mrs. Pamela Swoyer, Work-based Education teacher, who gives support to the students, grantors and organizations to make this program possible.

About Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology (MBIT) offers twenty-one career pathways, all geared towards preparing students to meet the needs of High Priority Occupations in Pennsylvania, while enhancing the academic program for all students. In addition, MBIT students can earn nationally recognized certifications and college advanced credits. MBIT services students from the Centennial, Central Bucks, Council Rock, and New Hope-Solebury School Districts. Learn more by visiting www.mbit.org.

For more information, please contact Jeanise Dimitri, at jdimitri@mbit.org or 215-343-2480 ext 218.

***Photos attached

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