

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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It takes
MORE THAN
BOOTSTRAPS
to succeed



More Than Bootstraps Awarded Grant from Investors Foundation

The grants will support stipends for students in the MTB College Access and Success Program

WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY – August 23, 2021. [More Than Bootstraps](#) (MTB), a New Jersey non-profit dedicated to helping low-income, first-generation students access and succeed in higher education, has received a \$500 grant from [Investors Foundation](#). The funds will be used to provide a monthly stipend for six high school students from Passaic, New Jersey, who are participating in the MTB College Access and Success Program for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Investors Bank, headquartered in Short Hills, New Jersey, created the Investors Foundation in 2005 to support the communities Investors Bank serves. Investors Foundation supports initiatives in the arts, youth development, health and human services, education and affordable housing. The Investors Foundation works to improve the lives of its neighbors and communities across the bank's footprint.



More Than Bootstraps is a non-profit created by educators seeking to level the playing field and remove some of the substantial barriers that first-generation college students encounter in accessing and succeeding in higher education. More Than Bootstraps employs a near-peer mentoring model to create a community of success. College students from the community return to guide their younger peers in the community through the college search, application, and assimilation process. These leaders, working as a mentoring cohort, in turn strengthen their own college-going identities and improve their own chances of success in higher education.

Students are selected based on their desire to attend college and their commitment to the program rather than grade point average or test scores. All students in the MTB program receive stipends, laptop computers, and access to emergency resources to help them with the many non-tuition expenses of higher education.

More Than Bootstraps launched in August 2020 with our initial partner, the Passaic Public Schools. The program for academic year 2021-2022 has doubled in size to serve 21 first-generation students: 10 rising junior High School Fellows, 5 rising senior and returning High School Fellows, and 6 College Student Leaders.

“We are fortunate to have an amazing community partner in Investors Foundation. Together, we can empower these students not just to be the first in their families to attain a college degree but to lift others as they rise,” said Audrey Fisch, president of More Than Bootstraps.

All donations to More Than Bootstraps go directly to fund stipends, educational expenses, and emergency funds for students. Board members cover all administrative expenses. Interested donors should visit the MTB website: www.morethanbootstraps.org/donate.

About Investors Bank

Investors Bank, headquartered in Short Hills, New Jersey, is a full-service community bank that has been serving customers since 1926. With over \$25 billion in assets and a network of more than 150 retail branches, Investors Bank delivers personalized services and products tailored to the needs of its customers. Investors Bank’s services include complete deposit, loan and cash management products for consumers and businesses. Investors Bank. Member FDIC and Equal Housing Lender.

About the Investors Foundation

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For more information, please visit <https://www.myinvestorsbank.com/Community/Investors-Foundation>

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