

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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More Than Bootstraps Awarded \$5,000 Grant from the KearnyBank Foundation
The grant will support stipends for students in the MTB College Access and Success Program

WESTFIELD and PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY – November 15, 2022. [More Than Bootstraps](#) (MTB), a New Jersey non-profit organization, has received a \$5,000 grant from the [KearnyBank Foundation](#) to support its college access and success work in Passaic, New Jersey.

More Than Bootstraps was selected to receive the grant based on its work addressing the challenges first-generation, low-income students face in getting to and succeeding in higher education. MTB builds on these students' strengths to create a sustainable pathway to and through college. The organization provides first-generation high school students with near-peer mentors -- current college students from their community. College student mentors meet weekly with their high school mentees and follow a curriculum of activities focused on personal and professional development, college and financial aid awareness, and communication with families. Once a month, the full group convenes for workshops and guest presentations.

Grants and donations to More Than Bootstraps fund the monthly stipends that allow the high school and college students in the program some time and space to devote to their professional development and college-going activities while still meeting their financial responsibilities. The grant from the KearnyBank Foundation will help support these monthly stipends during the AY 2022-2023.

"As we enter our third year of programming with students in and from Passaic, we are enormously grateful for the recognition of our program's contribution to the higher-education success of first-generation students," said **Audrey Fisch**, president of More Than Bootstraps.

Interested donors are invited to visit the MTB website: www.morethanbootstraps.org/donate.

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About **MORE THAN BOOTSTRAPS**

[More Than Bootstraps](#) builds a community of first-generation, underrepresented students who empower each other to access and succeed in higher education. *More Than Bootstraps is a 501(c)3*

organization, Tax ID 83-2245008. For more information, visit www.morethanbootstraps.org or call (908) 397-0893.

MTB DIGITAL PRESS KIT: www.morethanbootstraps.org/mtb-digital-press-kit

About **KEARNYBANK FOUNDATION**

Kearny Bank combines the best traditions of community banking with the industry’s latest, most effective financial products and services to provide business and personal clients with the tools for success. Established back in 1884, and now operating from corporate offices in Fairfield, NJ, Kearny Bank’s footprint covers most of New Jersey, along with Brooklyn and Staten Island.

The KearnyBank Foundation is dedicated to delivering meaningful support to the organizations that make our communities better. Through financial grants and the hands-on efforts of our own employees, together we improve the lives of our friends and neighbors throughout the communities we serve.

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