

The Bridge Academy Receives \$20,000 Donation from Munich Reinsurance America

Lawrenceville, NJ -- A donation of \$20,000 by Munich Reinsurance America, Inc. (Munich Re America) was recently awarded to The Bridge Academy in support of their educational program for students with learning disabilities. The Bridge Academy's mission is to educate and empower students with language-based learning disabilities to help them reach their full potential through a comprehensive educational program. This generous grant will assist The Bridge Academy in its goal to expand their school campus to accept more students, and move forward in fulfilling its promise of transforming students from those who have known only frustration and failure into those who are confident and primed for success.

"We appreciate the partnership we have developed with Munich Re America and their support of our small school. Our vision has always been to have an expanded home for our school that will accommodate more students and preserve our legacy to make a meaningful difference in not only our students' lives, but in their families' lives as well," said Susan Morris, Director of Education, The Bridge Academy. "This donation will help bring us closer to that goal."

"Munich Re America has a long history of giving back to the communities where our employees live and work. We are impressed with the programs The Bridge Academy has developed to help educate students with learning disabilities," said Arlene Kern, co-chair of Munich Re America's Charitable Giving Committee.

Founded in 2003 by parents, educators and members of the community, The Bridge Academy's sole focus is on helping children with learning disabilities reach their fullest potential through an individualized approach to education. The school is at full capacity at their current location. They have purchased property adjacent to the site where it currently leases space. This grant from Munich Re America will be used for the renovation of a house that is located on the property. This space will include a new, upgraded student art studio and additional student-dedicated spaces, including a new nurse's office and counselor's office. The building also will provide room for student, parent, and professional development meeting space.

The Bridge Academy is a New Jersey approved, non-profit school for students, ages 8 – 18, with language-based learning disabilities, like dyslexia, auditory processing disorder and ADHD. "The Bridge Academy is the only Orton-Gillingham program accredited in the tri-state area, and just one of fifteen in the nation," noted Morris. Orton-Gillingham serves as the foundation of the language arts program utilizing a 3:1 student-staff ratio, while small group instruction spans the curriculum." She said that the program utilizes multi-sensory teaching techniques to address individual learning styles in a supportive and nurturing environment that fosters each student's academic and social growth. For more information, you can contact the school at www.banj.org or 609-844-0770.

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Photo Caption: Arlene Kern and Jill Sanfillippo from Munich Re America review architecture plans with The Bridge Academy students and Director of Education, Susan Morris.