



# Santander Bank Celebrates National Small Business Week by Donating Close to \$1.1 Million to Leading Non-Profits Driving Small Business Development

**Boston, May 4, 2018 – PRESS RELEASE**

Santander Bank today announced the donation of nearly \$1.1 million in grants to more than 16 mission-driven non-profit organizations throughout its footprint that support small business development and foster entrepreneurship in their communities in recognition of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) ‘National Small Business Week.’

“For the second year in a row, Santander has turned the SBA’s ‘National Small Business Week’ into a month-long celebration,” said Amir Madjlessi, Santander’s Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Business Banking. “Small businesses play a significant role in the economic well-being of our communities and there’s no better way to show them our respect this month and every month than by giving them our financial support and lending our time and expertise. In addition to donating to these exceptional organizations, Santander’s Business Banking team will be donating their personal time to provide financial education and mentoring to small businesses and entrepreneurs.”

These donations are a part of Santander Bank’s Charitable Contributions Program, which awards grants three times a year to programs serving low- to moderate-income business owners, individuals, families and communities. Non-profits receiving Santander grants in recognition and support of Small Business Week include:

ORGANIZATION NAME	LOCATION	GRANT AMOUNT
ASSETS Lancaster	Lancaster, PA	\$15,000
Babson College	Boston, MA	\$191,000
Common Capital	Springfield, MA	\$10,000
Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Center	New York, NY	\$256,500
CommonWealth Kitchen	Dorchester, MA	\$285,000
Community Action Development Corporation of the Lehigh Valley	Allentown, PA	\$10,000
Community Teamwork	Lowell, MA	\$10,000
English for New Bostonians	East Boston, MA	\$10,000
Hot Bread Kitchen	New York, NY	\$20,000
International Hartford	Hartford, CT	\$10,000
Neighborhood Development Corporation of	Roxbury, MA	\$5,000



Grove Hal		
-----------	--	--

Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE)	Regional [New England, New York, Philadelphia, South Florida]	\$210,000
New England Center for Arts & Technology	Boston, MA	\$10,000
Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	Philadelphia, PA	\$25,000
Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development Corporation	Brooklyn, NY	\$15,000
Welcoming Center for New Pennsylvanians	Philadelphia, PA	\$10,000
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,092,500</b>

Santander’s larger grant recipients include Boston-based CommonWealth Kitchen and Babson College, and New York City’s Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE).

CommonWealth Kitchen and Babson College are Santander’s strategic partners in the Bank’s *Cultivate Small Business* initiative. Launched in May 2017, *Cultivate Small Business* helps early-stage entrepreneurs in Greater Boston’s low- and moderate-income neighborhoods build and sustain their businesses by providing industry-specific education, networks and mentoring as well as small capital grants for business owners. An innovative community-based food business accelerator, CommonWealth Kitchen is providing program participants with shared kitchen space and a continuum of business and technical assistance services along with access to industry-specific advice and support. Renowned for its central focus on entrepreneurship education, Babson College has developed a customized business education curriculum for *Cultivate Small Business*’ eight-month program that combines in-person business classes at the College’s downtown Boston campus with online sessions that participants can access remotely.

Santander’s donation to NFTE supports the organization’s Adopt-A-Class initiative, which NFTE estimates will reach and activate the entrepreneurial mindset of more than 11,100 students in 500 classes this year with impactful programming. NFTE provides schools and partners the opportunity to change the lives of young people through the transformative power of entrepreneurship. Its mission is to provide programs that inspire young people from low-income communities to stay in school, recognize business opportunities and plan for successful futures.

Shawn Osborne, President and CEO of NFTE, commented, “Santander has been helping NFTE activate the entrepreneurial mindset of underserved youth for four years and we are proud to see this partnership continue to grow. We are incredibly grateful for the investment Santander has made in our program, both financially and through skills-based volunteerism, which is a critical piece to the student experience for their long-term success. Because of Santander’s commitment to NFTE, together, we are able to impact the lives of more students and start them on their entrepreneurial journey, preparing them to be career-ready and tomorrow’s innovators.”

Santander’s ‘Small Business Month’ also includes a series of activities dedicated to supporting



small business owners and fostering small business growth, including:

- Check presentations to donation recipients, including NFTE and the Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Center (CH-SBDC). On Monday, April 30, Santander joined Columbia Business School (CBS) to present the CH-SBDC with a check for \$256,500 to support training and developing entrepreneurs in New York City over the next three years. Santander awarded this funding to support the CH-SBDC's programming and its efforts to launch a cross-collaborative project with CBS's Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness in Latin America Program to support global entrepreneurship. The CH-SBDC is part of New York's statewide SBDC network, which is funded in part by the SBA, providing small business owners and entrepreneurs with confidential counseling, training and research.
- A celebratory rally on May 8 where more than 300 team members from Santander's Business Banking division will gather at the Marriott Hotel in Quincy, MA to share effective strategies for supporting their small business clients and recognize top performers.
- In-branch networking events for small business customers and prospects between May 21 and May 25 at 160 branches where small business owners will have the opportunity to network with Santander's Small Business Relationship Managers and each other, collaborate and discuss best practices aimed at helping small businesses succeed.

**Santander Bank, N.A.** is one of the country's largest retail and commercial banks with \$74.5 billion in assets. With its corporate offices in Boston, the Bank's approximately 9,600 employees, over 600 branches, more than 2,000 ATMs and 2.1 million customers are principally located in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. The Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Madrid-based Banco Santander, S.A. (NYSE: SAN) - one of the most respected banking groups in the world with more than 125 million customers in the U.S., Europe, and Latin America. It is managed by Santander Holdings USA, Inc., Banco Santander's intermediate holding company in the U.S. For more information on Santander Bank, please visit [www.santanderbank.com](http://www.santanderbank.com).

**Media Contacts:**

Ann Davis

617-757-5891

[ann.davis@santander.us](mailto:ann.davis@santander.us)

Nancy Orlando

617-757-5765

[nancy.orlando@santander.us](mailto:nancy.orlando@santander.us)

###