

# Homestyle fundraiser collects \$20K for black college fund

More than 45 donors and student beneficiaries of the United Negro College Fund "A Mind Is" Annual Giving Society joined attorney Rhonda Hill Wilson for an exclusive fundraising reception in her Rosemont home on Sept. 9. It was the Giving Society's inaugural event.

Wilson, who runs the Philadelphia law firm The Law Office of Rhonda Hill Wilson, is the fundraiser ambassador for the United Negro College Fund, the nation's oldest minority higher education assistance organization.

"I wanted to do something that was reflective of my values, my interests and my passion, which is education," Wilson said. "It could have been done in a hotel, it could have been done in a conference center, but I just wanted people to get up close with students who attended [historically black colleges and universities] to actually have

Cos. Inc. in King of Prussia designed a pro bono landscaping plan for the Women Against Abuse Inc.'s headquarters in Philadelphia, where the nonprofit operates the city's only shelter specifically for domestic abuse victims.

BL employees and community volunteers installed shaded seating and plantings to enhance the front entrance on Sept. 15 as a part of the United Way of South-eastern Pennsylvania's 16th annual Days of Caring event.

## A \$200K boost

In honor of the Citizens Bank Foundation's \$200,000 gift to the Project Great Potential program, The Enterprise Center presented the foundation with a plaque Sept. 19.

Project Great Potential is a free eight-week course for males ages 18 to 25 who come from under-resourced communities. The course helps them to develop the leadership qualities and technical skills necessary for employment or entrepreneurship.

The Enterprise Center, founded by the Wharton Small Business Development Center in 1989, provides access to capital, business education and economic development opportunities to minority entrepreneurs. The Citizens Bank Foundation is a charitable contribution vehicle of Citizens Financial Group, RBS Citizens, North America and Citizens Bank of Pennsylvania focused on housing, community development and basic human needs.

— Malaika Carpenter



From left: Rhonda Hill Wilson hosted Judge Debra Todd, the judge's sister Mary Johnston and Mary Young of King of Prussia at her Rosemont home.



conversations with them.”

In attendance were Elleanor Jean Hendley of EJ Hendley Consultants LLC, Karin Phillips of KYW Newsradio 1060, Superior Court Judge Debra Todd and C. Darnell Jones II, who is president judge of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, among others.

The “A Mind Is” Annual Giving Society offers annual contributions to fund scholarships and academic programs for UNCF students and historically black college and university member schools. This year, the Pennsylvania chapter raised \$20,000.

## **Strikeout, raise dollars**

Susquehanna Bank of Lititz and the minor league baseball team the Camden Riversharks of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball Clubs Inc. presented a \$4,000 gift to the LEAP Academy University Charter School in Camden Sept. 9.

The donation is a part of the bank’s first Strikeouts for Straight A’s program with the Riversharks. The program, which has raised nearly \$70,000 altogether, helps fund educational programs for young children. Throughout the season, beginning May 8, Susquehanna Bank gave a \$10 donation to the LEAP Academy University Charter School for every strikeout thrown by the Riversharks during a home game.

## **Women’s shelter makeover**

Architecture and engineering firm BL

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