



For Immediate Release

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**Suffolk County Child Care Program Receives Grant from
State Bank of Long Island**

(Ronkonkoma...) The State Bank of Long Island recently made a donation to Early Discoveries Center, a not-for-profit child care provider, to help it improve its multi-cultural curriculum. The funds enabled Early Discoveries Center to purchase books, music, dolls, dress-up clothing, other toys and materials to augment multi-cultural awareness and education. The program enhancements made possible by these funds will enable Early Discoveries Center to pursue national accreditation.

Early Discoveries Center, with centers in Port Jefferson and Ronkonkoma, provides high quality early childhood education and child care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. The program is seeking accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). The rigorous accreditation process will include evaluation of the program's approach to multi-cultural education and awareness.

"NAEYC is recognized for promoting quality childcare. Early Discoveries Center is already a trusted child care provider for hundreds of Long Island families. Accreditation will reinforce this fact. We are grateful to the State Bank of Long Island for their generosity. These new materials will not only enable us to gain accreditation, but will also enhance the children's educational experience," explained Denise Ferrera, Director of Early Discoveries Center in Ronkonkoma.

In the accompanying photo, preschoolers thank Michael O'Leary, Vice President at the State Bank of Long Island.

For more information about Early Discoveries Center or the donation recently given by State Bank of Long Island, contact Julie Wexler at (631) 585-2020, ext. 260.

About Early Discoveries Center

Founded in 1980 to meet the dependent care needs of Long Island's working families, Early Discoveries Center provides care for children ages 6 weeks through 12 years old at two centers, Port Jefferson and Ronkonkoma. Early Discoveries Center also contracts with local school districts to offer Universal Pre-kindergarten Services. Early Discoveries Center is a program of The Community Programs Center of Long Island, Inc., a not-for-profit organization.

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