



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Grant Helps Providence Elementary School Bring the Classroom Outdoors

Boston, MA, June 13, 2011 – The [Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp.](#), a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, has awarded a [Community Grant](#) to the Community Preparatory School in Providence, Rhode Island, to support an after school gardening program. Specifically, the grant will help purchase gardening tools and supplies such as soil, seeds, seeding kits, and worms.

The gardening project will include a vermicompost program wherein students will compost their healthy snack food scraps each afternoon using Red Wiggler worms. Students will be responsible for caretaking the worms, keeping journal entries on progress, and caring for indoor seedlings. Once transplanted to the outdoor garden, students and their families will continue to care for the garden during the spring and summer months. The project will culminate with a large harvest festival in the fall.

The Community Preparatory School's After School Program offers academic enrichment and extracurricular activities to low-income students before and after the regular school day. The gardening project will be conducted in collaboration with the Providence Academy for International Studies (PAIS), which will provide leadership opportunities for the Academy's high school students to mentor the Community Preparatory students.

Grant applicant and Community Preparatory School teacher, Gina Rodriguez-Drix, said, "In addition to rebuilding the school's garden plot, this project aims to enhance students' understanding of life sciences while developing and sustaining community collaboration and mentorship. Students and their families will also have access to healthy, locally grown produce. We thank the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation for their support."

Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., commented, "When integrated into an educational curriculum, school gardens can provide experiential lessons on nature, plants, and the environment. We are excited to support the gardening program at the Community Preparatory School, and we look forward to fall harvest."

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the Community Grants subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence, New York or Washington DC within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications



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and an explanation of the program can be found at
www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp.

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