



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2019

Michael J. Cerio
Cerio Communications
(401) 743-8269
Michael@CerioCommunications.com

BankRI Supports Cranston YMCA’s “Power Lunch” for Senior Citizens

12-week program offers meals to area seniors, opportunity to escape the heat and socialize

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – A local program that offers weekday lunches to senior citizens and a way to escape the heat during the summer months is underway at the Cranston Y. Offered through the Cranston YMCA at 1225 Park Avenue – a branch of the Greater Providence YMCA – *Power Lunch brought to you by National Grid* recently received a charitable grant from **Bank Rhode Island (BankRI)** to support its delivery this summer.

Having recently begun, and continuing for 12-weeks, the *Power Lunch* program is offered Monday through Friday at noon. It is open to both YMCA senior members and senior non-members, and is targeted to help low-income individuals.

“This is a program that makes a tremendous difference – we applaud the Cranston Y for identifying a community need and working to fill that need,” said Mark J. Meiklejohn, President and CEO of BankRI. “The hot days of summer can be especially dangerous for seniors, particularly those living on a fixed income and facing the choice of paying a higher electric bill to cool their home or buying food.”

“It has been such a rewarding experience to work with a volunteer at our Y to bring this program from an idea to a reality,” shared Andrea Champagne, Executive Director of the Cranston Y. “The Y is so much more than a gym, and meeting community needs is an essential part of our mission. We are so grateful to sponsors like BankRI. It is thanks to their generosity that we have the capacity to deliver a program that provides not only meals, but socialization opportunities to our seniors.”

The *Power Lunch brought to you by National Grid* program takes place in the Cranston Y’s cool, spacious multi-purpose room five days a week. Beginning at noon each day seniors can cool off, enjoy a prepared meal, and socialize with others in a comfortable space. The Cranston Y is partnering with Blackstone Health as one of its congregate meal sites to ensure the diverse dietary needs of seniors are being met.

Registration is required and spots may be reserved by calling the Cranston Y at (401) 943-0444.

About Bank Rhode Island

Bank Rhode Island, a wholly owned subsidiary of Brookline Bancorp, Inc. (NASDAQ:BRKL), is a full-service, FDIC-insured financial institution headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. The bank operates 20 branches and more than 45 ATMs throughout Providence, Kent, Newport and Washington Counties. For more information, visit www.bankri.com. You can also find BankRI on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BankRhodeIsland.

###