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PRESS RELEASE

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PRONTO OF LONG ISLAND WINS SOCIAL IMPACT AWARD



Kathy Bennett, President, Pronto of Long Island, Inc. accepts the \$5,000 Imagine Award for Social Impact from Ken Cerini founder of the Long Island Imagine Awards

Bay Shore, NY – Pronto of Long Island, Inc. (Pronto), a nonprofit, Community Outreach Center serving the most vulnerable children and families living in Brentwood, Bay Shore, Central Islip and neighboring communities, is proud to announce that they have won the Cerini and Associates, LLP Social Impact Award at the 5th Annual Long Island Imagine Awards. The Imagine Awards was created to offer formal More...

acknowledgement to some of Long Island's most effective and innovative nonprofit organizations. The Social Impact Award is given to a nonprofit that measures success not just by meeting its mission, but by affecting the surrounding community. Impact goes beyond the number of children served, shelters provided, and mouths fed. Impact looks at how the organization impacted the Long Island community as a whole, and how the results have been measured.

Pronto was selected from a pool of over 175 nonprofit applicants for their healthy living program which provides food staples to meet basic nutritional requirements for the community residents. The food is donated from local and regional food banks and warehouses. As part of the healthy living program Pronto offers opportunities to help their community members to access free immunizations through a partnership with the Department of Health, bi-lingual and free educational courses, and seminars. Pronto provides these programs and services to help the underserved improve the quality of their lives.

"We are very proud that Pronto was selected for the Social Impact Award, especially since there were so many worthy applicants,' said Robert S. Budd, CEO FREE. "This award is a testament to the men and women who work on the front lines at Pronto to make their community a better place," he continued.

"Pronto is truly honored to be in the company of such wonderful nonprofit organizations, said Kathy Bennett, President, Pronto. "We were thrilled to win and be rewarded for our hard work. The prize money will help us continue our mission of feeding and clothing the underserved on Long Island."

As a winner, Pronto will be awarded a \$5,000 grant which they will put towards providing breakfast to children who receive immunizations. Every week children come to Pronto to receive immunization shots and there is no food available for them or their siblings. This award will help by providing breakfast for the children before or after their immunization. Eating breakfast is critical for everyone, but is especially so for children and adolescents. The grant will also help to buy boots, gloves and coats for children.

In its fifth year, the Imagine Awards are the premiere awards program on Long Island for the nonprofit sector.

Pronto of Long Island, Inc.

Pronto of Long Island, Inc. is an outreach center whose mission is to feed the hungry, clothe the needy, welcome the stranger, and provide healing and hope to everyone who walks through their doors. Pronto opened in 1969 from the vision of a group of committed lay people and clergy at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church. Since then, it has gone through several reincarnations resulting in unique partnerships with Catholic Charities, food distributors and local markets, as well as health, welfare, benefit and educational providers. Partnering with the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce and volunteers, Pronto will expand their outreach to a greater population and assist those who may not have access to formal cooking facilities. Pronto has been able to flourish based on contributions of clothing, furniture, household items and monetary donations. As always, this vision is fueled by prayer and the hard work of committed volunteers, and with these two powerful elements, Pronto cannot help but succeed. Pronto is a nonprofit partner of the United Way of Long Island.

Pronto of Long Island, Inc. is a member of the FREE Network, which collaborates with a variety of diverse 501(c)(3) nonprofit partners on educational, vocational, rehabilitative and a myriad of other creative initiatives to enhance the local communities and the lives of more than 25,000 people that reside within them. Each of the valued partners of the FREE Network have a unique mission, vision and strategic goals that are aligned in purpose, and embody the spirit of the meaningful work we do every day.