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Student Video Nomination of The Center for Youth a Finalist in Online Contest

Video with most votes will receive \$10,000 grant award for nominated organization

Watch video, cast vote here: <http://woobox.com/ivyhgx>

Rochester, N.Y., Feb. 3, 2015 – A 60-second video featuring a student in The Center for Youth’s New Beginning school-based program in Rochester is one of eight finalists in First Niagara Bank’s Mentoring Matters Grant Giveaway contest. It was selected from nearly 100 entries from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania.

In the video, Derrick Berry, 19, of Rochester describes the impact mentors from The Center for Youth have had on his life. He says Executive Director Elaine Spaul and Director of School-Based Programs Paul Clark helped him get his life on track.

“When I came here, I was definitely on the road to failure,” Berry says in the video. “I had a 0.00 average. After meeting Paul and Elaine, I really started thinking about changing my life and making it better for my future, so I started focusing on school a lot more, and I started getting my grades up.”

Berry is now a senior in New Beginning and an honor-roll student.

As part of National Mentoring Month, First Niagara invited individuals to share their mentoring stories through video and nominate their favorite mentoring organization. The video with the most votes by 5 p.m. Feb. 13 will win a \$10,000 grant award from the First Niagara Foundation. The second place video will win \$4,000, and the six runners up will earn \$1,000 for the organizations they represent.

“We work with young people in schools, on the street and in our shelters across our community every day, and we see the tremendous impact positive role models have on our youth,”



Spaull said. “We thank First Niagara for its generosity and also the opportunity to help Derrick share his story.”

Watch the complete video and vote at <http://woobox.com/ivyhgx>.

About The Center for Youth

Started by youth for youth in 1971, The Center for Youth delivers a continuum of services to homeless and runaway youth and families in crisis, including emergency shelter, transitional housing programs and Crisis Nursery, which provides temporary childcare during emergencies. The Center’s school-based, counseling and community awareness programs aim to educate, engage and empower young people. All services are delivered with the knowledge that youth want to and can take responsibility for their life choices. For more information, visit www.centerforyouth.net or find us on social media: Facebook (Center for Youth) and Twitter (@center4youth).