

## **Bank of Granite Long View office named Outstanding Philanthropic Organization**

Juan Ramirez, customer service and sales representative in Bank of Granite's Long View, N.C. office, reinforced the bank's commitment to the community when he recently accepted the award for Outstanding Philanthropic Organization from the Northwest North Carolina Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP). Lisa Miller, executive director of the Women's Resource Center in Hickory, N.C., presented the award.

The AFP is an international professional organization for those individuals and corporations raising funds for nonprofit organizations. It has been in service for over a decade and recognizes outstanding achievements.

"It was my sincere pleasure to have presented Juan and Bank of Granite this award," said Miller. "He was familiar with our organization since he was, in fact, an award recipient in 2006 for Outstanding Youth Volunteer." Miller further stated, "There is no question Bank of Granite does so much in the community. As Women's Resource Center director, I have *first hand* knowledge of their service."

"We are an office of nine unique individuals from diverse backgrounds that together share our skills and talents for the well-being of others," said Ramirez. In addition to the Women's Resource Center, the Long View office supports United Way, March of Dimes, Meals on Wheels, Project H.E.A.R.T. and the local fire and police departments. They have also

contributed to the education of the Hispanic community by giving workshops on saving money, home buying and small business. Individual employees also serve the community by taking leadership roles with groups such as Boy Scouts of America, American Lung Association, Children's Miracle Network and American Heart Association.

"Bank of Granite has a 100-year-plus legacy of helping the communities we serve," said W. C. "Corky" Upchurch, Bank of Granite's senior vice president and office administrator. "We're especially proud of the generosity and enthusiasm of our Long View office employees."

Bank of Granite and Granite Mortgage are subsidiaries of Bank of Granite Corporation whose stock is traded on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol "GRAN." The bank operates 22 full-service banking offices in Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Forsyth, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Watauga, and Wilkes counties, and a lending office in Guilford County. Granite Mortgage, headquartered in Winston-Salem, originates home mortgages in these counties and in Fayetteville and Salisbury, N.C.

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