

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Impact Award Honorees (John & Amy Cervantes, Founders of Bright Blessings presented awards) Recipients: (top row – left to right, then bottom row – left to right) Moore & Van Allen – Caroline Yingling, Ally Financial – Jennifer Kelly, Providence Road Church of Christ - LaCinda Benson & Brian Suber, Union Academy – Cynthia Mitchell, Jack Henry & Associates – Melissa McKibben*

**Local Businesses Honored With Impact Awards**

*Award recipients recognized for support of non-profit programs that serve local homeless children*

**Matthews, NC, October 10, 2014** – Bright Blessings held its annual Impact Breakfast on Thursday, October 9 at Myers Park Country Club. The event, sponsored by the law office of Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, offered the nearly 100 attendees information on family homelessness and the effects of poverty on children. Special guest speaker, Patrice Webb-Bush, a social worker with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, provided further insights on the many issues transient homeless children face.

During the event, Bright Blessings founders, Amy & John Cervantes, presented Impact Awards to honor the contributions of several longtime partners from the business, academic and faith communities. Award recipients include:



**Bright Blessings**  
**608-A Matthews-Mint Hill Rd.**  
**Matthews, NC 28105**

**Ally Financial**

**The Dale Jr. Foundation**

**Jack Henry & Associates of Charlotte**

**Moore & Van Allen**

**Providence Road Church of Christ**

**Union Academy**

“Our business and community partners are vital to the success of Bright Blessings and the programs we provide to thousands of local homeless children every year,” says Scott Anderson, Bright Blessings board member and attorney with Womble Carlyle, host of Thursday’s breakfast event. “We are proud to honor these businesses and organizations with an Impact Award in recognition of their tremendous support.”

Bright Blessings was founded in 2005 by Amy and John Cervantes of Mint Hill, North Carolina. Their family service project was created with a desire to help needy children while instilling a love and commitment for community service in their own young children. What began as a monthly birthday party at one homeless shelter has since grown into a non-profit organization that provides services to thousands of local children in need. The organization’s main programs, Bless-a-Birthday, Bless-a-Baby and Gift of Literacy, bring joy, care, comfort and hope to more than 3,000 homeless children across the greater Charlotte region every year.

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