

## Bank of America Names Bottom Line 2021 Neighborhood Builders®

October 29, 2021 – Bottom Line has received a 2021 Bank of America <u>Neighborhood Builders®</u> award for its work in Greater Boston to promote economic opportunity and educational access among low-income populations, particularly in communities of color.

As a Neighborhood Builder, Bottom Line receives a \$200,000 grant over two years, comprehensive leadership training for the executive director and an emerging leader on topics ranging from increasing financial sustainability, human capital management and strategic storytelling, joins a network of peer organizations across the U.S., and gets the opportunity to access capital to expand their impact. The program continues to be the nation's largest investment into nonprofit leadership development.

Bottom Line is focused on raising the college graduation rates of first-generation students from low-income backgrounds. By providing one-on-one support, they have helped thousands of students stay in college and complete their degrees.

"As communities continue to recover and navigate a changing landscape, nonprofits are still experiencing significant demands and are in need of resources to help meet critical local needs like promoting educational access and economic opportunity, especially for culturally diverse populations," said Miceal Chamberlain, president, Bank of America Massachusetts. "BFIT and Bottom Line are helping bridge important gaps for individuals and families to help them chart a path toward economic opportunity and stability. The Neighborhood Builders program can help these organizations grow sustainably and strategically for greater positive impact in the community."

"Bottom Line is grateful for Bank of America's shared commitment to racial equity. Through the Neighborhood Builder's program, they are investing in our Young Men of Color Initiative to address the chronic and systemic barriers people of color from low-income backgrounds face on their path to a college degree and mobilizing career," said Ginette Saimprevil, Executive Director of Bottom Line. "A year ago, I stepped into the role of Executive Director, aiming to instill my experiences as a woman of color and program alumnae into my stewardship of the organization. I appreciate Bank of America's investment in my leadership development and the organization's sustainability."

Since 2004, Bank of America has invested over \$280 million in 50 communities through Neighborhood Builders, partnering with more than 1,400 nonprofits and helping more than 2,800 nonprofit leaders strengthen their leadership skills. In Greater Boston, 34 nonprofits have been selected as a Neighborhood Builder, with the bank investing \$6.8 million into these local organizations through the program since 2004.

The invitation-only program is highly competitive, and leading members of the community participated in a collaborative selection process to identify this year's awardees. Neighborhood Builders is just one example of how Bank of America deploys capital in communities, builds cross-sector partnerships, and promotes socioeconomic progress as part of its approach to responsible growth.