

For Immediate Release

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**Panera Bread Customers Raise “Dough” for
Delaware Mentoring Program**

*Funds to be used to thank volunteer mentors; Lieutenant Governor, and mentor,
Matt Denn to recognize program participants at appreciation event*

Wilmington, DE – April 21, 2009 – Panera Bread cafes in Concord, Newark, and Kirkwood raised over \$1,100.00 through Operation Dough-Nation to support Connecting Generations’ Creative Mentoring program. Operation Dough-Nation is a program that allows Panera Bread customers to make donations in Community Breadboxes in cafes.

Creative Mentoring supports mentoring programs in more than 80 schools and community and faith-based organizations in New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties in Delaware, training volunteer mentors and helping schools and organizations design and implement quality mentoring programs. Creative Mentoring currently have more than 1,000 active mentors volunteering throughout the state.

“Panera Bread is committed to the communities where our customers and employees live and work,” said Tammy Dwyer, Director of Marketing at Panera Bread. “We are proud to support Creative Mentoring, which has a tremendous impact building students’ self-esteem and confidence in schools throughout our neighborhoods.”

Operation Dough-Nation funds will be used to thank Creative Mentoring participants at an end of school-year appreciation event. The event will be held Monday April 27th from 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM at Marshall Elementary School in Newark.

Volunteer mentors in attendance will be treated to dinner courtesy of Panera Bread and receive Panera Bread gift cards. Lieutenant Governor Matt Denn, a mentor at Bancroft Elementary School in Wilmington, will be in attendance to recognize program participants on behalf of the State of Delaware.

“This is the second year Panera Bread has generously supported our Creative Mentoring program,” added Rich Kapolka, Executive Director at Connecting Generations. “The money raised by Panera Bread customers enables us to support our volunteer mentors, who truly make a difference in children’s lives throughout Delaware.”

Editor’s Note: Members of the media are welcome to attend the event. There will be opportunities for photos.

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