

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2019

Berkshire Bank CEO Richard Marotta signs pledge to advance diversity and inclusion

BOSTON, MA (July 17, 2019) – Berkshire Bank has joined the growing coalition of businesses pledging to advance diversity and inclusion in the workplace. More than 600 CEOs have come together for the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™, including Berkshire Bank’s Richard Marotta.

By signing on to this commitment, Mr. Marotta and Berkshire Bank are pledging to take action to cultivate a workplace where diverse perspectives and experiences are welcomed and respected and where employees feel encouraged to discuss diversity and inclusion.

“Berkshire Bank has been committed to serving the communities in which we operate for over 170 years. The neighborhoods we work with have changed greatly over this time. We want to ensure that as demographics shift and our communities become more racially and ethnically diverse that we’re as nimble and adaptive as possible,” stated Richard Marotta, CEO of Berkshire Bank. “For us, this means creating programs and services that are inclusive and address the needs of our neighbors. We are committed to making sure all of our customers feel like we are attuned to their financial dreams as well as their struggles. We are honored to sign this pledge as it is a reflection of the values we hold dear.”

Organizations joining the pledge are taking a step towards effecting positive change. A diverse and inclusive workforce facilitates community but also drives innovation and creativity. A [recent study](#) found that 85 percent of those surveyed reported that diversity is a key component to fostering innovation.

“We are so proud that we are continuing to build momentum and support for the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™ across companies, industries, and regions. This collaboration expands our reach and brings in unique values, actions, and perspectives to continue to raise the bar for the entire business community,” said Tim Ryan, U.S. Chairman and Senior Partner of PwC and chair of the steering committee for the CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™. “The overwhelming support for the coalition has been amazing to see, and with each and every new organization signing on, we have the opportunity to put our commitments into action by working together to improve diversity and inclusion in our workplaces and communities.”

To learn more about the pledge, visit CEOAction.com. The website serves as a hub for information sharing, idea generation, and program development. With more than 600 best-known actions shared, companies that are not currently implementing the elements of the pledge can use it as an opportunity to learn from others that are already doing so. Learning from, and sharing, actions help companies drive greater engagement within their own programs, as well as mentor others on their journey.

About CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™

CEO Action for Diversity & Inclusion™ is the largest CEO-driven business commitment to



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advance diversity and inclusion within the workplace. Bringing together more than 600 CEOs of America's leading organizations, the commitment outlines actions that participating companies pledge to take to cultivate a workplace where diverse perspectives and experiences are welcomed and respected, employees feel comfortable and encouraged to discuss diversity and inclusion, and where best known—and unsuccessful—actions can be shared across organizations. Learn more at CEOAction.com and connect with us on Instagram: [@CEO_Action](https://www.instagram.com/CEO_Action) and Twitter: [@CEOAction](https://twitter.com/CEOAction).

Berkshire Bank is recognized for its entrepreneurial approach, relationship customer experience, and distinctive culture embracing and celebrating the diversity of all customers, employees and, suppliers - as its commitment to diversity continues to grow. With \$13.9 billion in assets, Berkshire provides business and consumer banking, mortgage, wealth management, investment and, insurance services through 132 branch offices in New York, Connecticut, Vermont, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Massachusetts, including Commerce Bank, a division of Berkshire Bank. Berkshire Hills Bancorp (NYSE: BHLB) is the parent of Berkshire Bank. Berkshire Bank was named one of Massachusetts' Most Charitable Companies by the Boston Business Journal in 2018. To learn more, visit www.berkshirebank.com, call 800-773-5601 or follow us on: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/berkshirebank), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/berkshirebank), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/berkshirebank) and, [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/berkshirebank). Berkshire Bank is the official bank of [NESN's Boston Bruins coverage](https://www.nesn.com/story/sports/boston-bruins/2018/02/22/berkshire-bank-official-bank-nesn-boston-bruins-coverage/). Life is Exciting. Let us help.®

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