

**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Betsie Trew, President & CEO  
331 South Main Street, Washington PA 15301

October 5, 2011  
724-222-6330  
bretrew@wccf.net

**Washington Financial Contributes \$50,000 to Community Foundation's EIO Fund**



*Brian J. Smith and Richard L. White*

Washington Financial Bank President and CEO Brian J. Smith (left) poses with Washington County Community Foundation (WCCF) Chairman of the Board Richard L. White after the Bank made a \$50,000 contribution to the Foundation's EIO Fund. Now retired, White served as President & CEO of the Bank when it was still known as Washington Federal; Smith is his successor at the Bank and was also elected to the WCCF Board of Trustees in December 2010.

The EIO Fund is one of three pass-through funds created by the WCCF to accept qualifying contributions through the Commonwealth's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program. Grants are awarded from the EIO Fund to innovative educational programs at area public schools. Scholarships are made available to children of needy families to attend non-public K-12 schools through the ESO Fund and to attend quality pre-school programs through the EPK Fund.

"The EITC funds are examples of the WCCF's efforts to facilitate philanthropy in our community, particularly as it relates to educating our next generation of leaders," stated Betsie Trew, WCCF President & CEO. "Corporations have shown an interest in the EITC program because it permits them to support educational efforts in a very tax-wise manner and we are delighted to serve as a vehicle through which these community-minded corporations may support local educational programs. The cumulative generosity of our corporate partners has enabled us to award more than \$500,000 from our three EITC funds."

With more than \$800 million in assets, Washington Financial is the largest locally owned and managed financial institution headquartered in Washington County and has been an annual contributor to the WCCF since the WCCF's inception in late 1995. This generous gift marks Washington Financial's largest individual contribution to the WCCF and its first under the EITC program.

“Washington Financial is pleased to continue our support of the Community Foundation and to initiate this new relationship under the EITC program,” remarked Brian Smith, President & CEO. “The Bank has always been a very strong supporter of education and the EITC program is an excellent complement to our charitable giving program. Through our participation with the Community Foundation in the EITC, we are able to direct specific dollars to local school districts to fund a number of innovative initiatives. We strongly encourage other corporations to contact the Community Foundation to see if the EITC program could benefit them as well.”

The WCCF seeks to promote and facilitate local philanthropy through various permanent and pass-through giving options. Currently, it manages 150 charitable funds and has awarded more than \$2 million in grants and scholarships. For more information, please contact the WCCF at 724-222-6330.