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Community

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Muncy Bank and Trust executives David Mayer, Daniel Berninger and Kathlene Bower present Betty Gilmour and Glenn Smith from the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania with an \$111,111 check to benefit local school districts through the Education Improvement Tax Credit Program.

The First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania received \$187,611 in donations from nine area businesses through the Pennsylvania Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) Program.

Muncy Bank and Trust has been donating to the EITC program through the Community Foundation since 2009. For the second year, the bank has graciously donated \$111,111 to five area school districts: East Lycoming, Montgomery, Montoursville, Muncy, and Warrior Run.

“We are proud to make an important investment in the future of the young people in our area,” said Daniel Berninger, Muncy Bank and Trust President & CEO. “There is no discussion when it comes to participating. It is a win-win situation for everyone.”

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s EITC Program allows businesses to donate to organization approved by the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) such as the Community Foundation.

In return, the business receives a tax credit for their donation. The business designates their donation to local public schools for innovation programs for students. The Community Foundation distributes the dollars to the school districts through two grant programs: Educator in Residence Grants and Venture Grants for Teachers.

Educators in Residence Grants provide funding to enable teachers to engage writers, artists, musicians, scientists, business leaders, naturalists, and others in supplementing their curricula and lesson plans with the real world professionals who can provide first-hand insight into a particular discipline. Monies are used to fund stipends, travel expenses, materials and related costs incurred in bringing a professional into the classroom.

Venture Grants for Teachers provide funding to enable teachers to develop new teaching approaches, creative lesson plans, new learning models, and other educational outreach beyond standard teaching practices. Monies are used to fund specialized materials, purchase outsourced resources, equipment integral to the venture project, student travel, and other educational outreach beyond standard teaching practices.

Several other local businesses were approved to participate in the 2012 EITC program. Woodlands Bank donated funds for the sixth year to five area school districts including Muncy School District.