

For Immediate Release

Contact: Betsie Trew, Executive Director
331 South Main Street, Washington PA 15301

April 13, 2009
724-222-6330
info@wccf.net

**Foundation Secures Trademark for Mother's Fund
Accepting Applications for \$10,000 Grant**



Washington, PA – The Washington County Community Foundation (WCCF) is pleased to announce that it has received a Federal Trademark for its Mother's Fund and the Fund's yellow rose logo. The Mother's Fund, a permanent grant-making fund, was initiated by the WCCF Board of Trustees in 1999 to support disadvantaged women and children in Washington County. The Trademark was secured through the efforts of JoAnn Isaac, Trademark Administrator for Cohen and Grigsby in Pittsburgh.

“Securing the trademark enables us to expand the reach of the Mother's Fund to other communities,” remarked Carlyn Belczyk, Chairman of the Foundation's Women of Philanthropy Committee, which raised more than \$225,000 for the Fund during the Foundation's Women of Philanthropy campaign in 2007. Planned gifts put into place during this campaign, will take the Fund's value to more than \$1 million when completed.

Through the educational component of the campaign, it became apparent to the Foundation that the issues facing disadvantaged women and children in Washington County - poverty, homelessness, alcoholism, parental neglect, lack of preventive health care, sexual assault, domestic violence, etc. - were very similar to those facing disadvantaged women and children in other parts of the country. It also became apparent that other communities had similar charities working to address these issues. But no matter the community, the primary obstacle for charities was typically lack of funding, which prompted the Foundation to consider expanding the geographic focus of the Mother's Fund.

“While the business plan for the expansion is not finalized,” added Betsie Trew, Executive Director, “it is anticipated that we will seek similar partnerships and implement similar strategies to those used in Washington County to secure the necessary monies to expand the service area of the Fund. We have not ruled



out the possibility of permitting other grant-making foundations to utilize the Fund name and logo to create a Mother's Fund at those foundations in exchange for an annual fee.”

It is important to note that the geographic expansion of this one fund will not alter the primary geographic focus of the overall Foundation. “As our name implies our primary service area and where most of our grants are targeted is Washington County, said Thomas Northrop, Chairman of the Board. “This will not change as we seek to support disadvantaged women and children beyond our primary service area.”

The Foundation is also pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for a \$10,000 grant from the Mother's Fund from charities providing services for disadvantaged women and children in Washington County. Interested charities should submit a program narrative, limited to three pages, and project budget to the Foundation by May 1. The grant recipient will be announced at the Foundation's Legacy Gala in June. For more information, please contact the WCCF at 724-222-6330 or info@wccf.net.

#