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Washington, PA – The Washington County Community Foundation is pleased to release the attached *Progress Report for 2002*. The report details three areas of accomplishment for the foundation:

- ◆ a 42% increase in normal contributions in 2002 over 2001
- ◆ continued growth in the endowment of the foundation
- ◆ record high of \$47,000 distributed to charitable causes

“Raising charitable dollars is never an easy thing,” comments Frank Tracanna, Development Chairman for the WCCF. “Raising charitable dollars in this economic climate is extremely difficult. Yet our donors increased their contributions to our Foundation in 2002. We believe that this is an indication that they see value in the services provided by our young foundation.”

Chairman of the Board, Lou Waller, Sr. agrees, “Over the years I have helped raise money for numerous charitable causes; it is never easy, though. Many donors I speak with want to see how their contribution is improving conditions within the community today. For some, the concept of endowment, providing for the future funding of charitable activity, is new. Yet, we have seen our overall endowment increase in 2002, in great part due to the increased acceptance of endowed gifts. Our board is encouraged by this.”

The Foundation is also pleased to have just completed a record breaking year for charitable distributions. In 2002, over \$43,000 was distributed from the endowment with another \$4,000 in pass through gifts. Cumulatively, the

foundation has distributed over \$150,000 in support of charitable causes. “It is important for our young foundation to illustrate to the community, the diversity of causes that we are able to support,” states John R. Duskey, Program & Allocations Chairman. “In 2002 the WCCF awarded grants in the areas of education, the environment, arts & culture, religion, health, and human services. Essentially, any charitable activity that improves quality of life issues in our community, we can support.”