

For Immediate Release

Contact: Betsie Trew, President & CEO
1253 Route 519, P.O. Box 308, Eighty Four, PA 15330



September 11, 2015
724-222-6330
brtrew@wccf.net
[@WashCoCommFdn](https://twitter.com/WashCoCommFdn)

WCCF Gives Surpasses \$735,000 for Area Charities!



The Washington County Community Foundation (WCCF) has released the preliminary results of *WCCF Gives*, Washington County's annual community-wide day of giving held on September 9, 2015. More than \$635,000 was contributed by the community, which when combined with the WCCF's \$100,000 bonus pool, will result in grant checks to participating charities of more than \$735,000! The increase in the total contributed over last year was 20%.

"The primary factor of this impressive dollar increase was that our new bonus pool distribution method incentivized charities to increase their number of donors," said Betsie Trew, President & CEO. "Of the 91 charities who participated in both 2014 and 2015, 36% increased their number of donors by 50% or more, and 13% increased their number of donors by 100% or more. Overall, we realized a 25% increase in the number of donors."

Previously, the bonus pool was distributed based solely on the total dollars a charity received. But, this year 50% of the bonus pool will be distributed based upon the number of donors and 50% by the dollar amount.

"This change was made to help level the playing field for smaller charities who don't have the ability to secure larger donations, and to reinforce to all charities the importance of building an ever-increasing base of donors," added Trew. "The charities who recognized the opportunity provided by this change and took steps to capitalize on it, will be rewarded by larger bonus amounts than under our previous method."

The charity that had the greatest percentage increase in the number of donors was the Monongahela Area Library who went from 13 donors in 2014 to 126 donors in 2015. Under the previous method their bonus would have been approximately \$800, but under the new method it is estimated to be \$2,600. This represents 8% of their contribution total of \$5,170 and \$17.86 per donor secured.

There was very little variation from last year to this year in the 10 charities who secured the highest contribution totals; nine of the 10 charities in this year's top 10 were the same charities as last year. The same is true for the 10 charities who secured the most donors; eight of the top 10 were the same charities as last year.

The charity that secured both the greatest contribution total and the most donors was the Washington City Mission, whose 226 donors contributed more than \$75,000. Their bonus is estimated to be \$10,000.

Foundation donors have expressed their appreciation for the day of giving, which enables them to support their favorite charities with one transaction. The largest gift received this year was \$62,000 which was targeted to seven charities, and the second largest gift was \$39,000, which was targeted to one charity. Donors contributing by credit card represented 59% of the total number of donors, and 33% of the total dollar amount. Donors contributing by check represented 41% of the total number of donors, and 67% of the total dollar amount. Of the gifts greater than \$7,000, 100% were contributed by check.

Charities will receive one check from the Community Foundation for the total of their contributions and the appropriate portion of the bonus pool, along with a list of contributors. For individual charity amounts, please visit www.wccfgives.org.

WCCF Gives was sponsored by Washington Financial Bank, Chapman Corporation, Alex Paris Contracting, ANSYS, Mylan Charitable Foundation, *Observer-Reporter*, Range Resources, and Washington Auto Mall.

WCCF Gives – In just one day, Washington County made a difference!