

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## M&T BANK SUPPORTS LITERACY FOR ROCHESTER'S YOUNG CHILDREN



L to R: George Tsanis, VP Commercial Branch Manager, M&T Bank; Lori VanAuken, Deputy Executive Director, Children's Institute; and Kevin A. DiGiacomo, VP Business and Professional Banking, M&T Bank

Rochester, NY – For the fourth year in a row, M&T Bank has provided financial support to Children's Institute's *Partners in Family Child Care* program. George Tsanis, VP Commercial Branch Manager, and Kevin A. DiGiacomo, VP Business and Professional Banking, were on hand to present a \$2,500 check on June 15, 2011 to Lori VanAuken, Deputy Executive Director of Children's Institute.

*The Partners in Family Child Care Program* prepares young children for Kindergarten by teaching early literacy skills and improving social/emotional outcomes of children in group family child care programs. Home visitors teach child care providers how to integrate curriculum into their programs and help providers connect children and families to community resources and services. Over the course of the four-year program, over 900 children will be served in 90 in-home child care programs throughout Rochester.

The project director is Shira Peterson, Ph.D., who is a research associate at Children's Institute. The program is a collaboration of Children's Institute, Family Child Care Satellite Network of Greater Rochester at Rochester Childfirst Network, and Family Resource Centers of Crestwood Children's Center at Hillside Family of Agencies.

Additional funding for Partners in Family Child Care is provided by the Brush Family Fund of Rochester Area Community Foundation, Rochester's Child, JPMorgan Chase Bank, Gerard and Caryl Wenzke, the Gannon Werner Memorial Fund, and an anonymous donor.

Children's Institute is a national charitable organization that works to improve the lives of children by strengthening their social and emotional health. Through sound research and evaluation, the organization develops and promotes effective prevention and early intervention programs, materials and best practices for children, families, schools and communities. Children's Institute is affiliated with the University of Rochester and has served the community for over 50 years.

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