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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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**UNION COUNTY PRESCHOOLERS TO TAKE PART IN VISION SCREENINGS
THANKS TO GRANT FROM THE UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

LEWISBURG, PA – Preschoolers in Union County will be able to take part in vision screenings with help from the Union County Community Foundation. A grant of \$1,336 will provide funding to Central Susquehanna Sight Services to make preschool vision screenings and educational programming available to Union County preschoolers. Representatives of the Union County Community Foundation presented the grant to Shelly Stroble, Executive Director of Central Susquehanna Sight Services, today.

Preschool screenings help identify eye problems in children at an early age. For a young child with vision problems, blurry vision is “normal” to him or her, and the problem may go undetected. When a problem is detected at one of the agency’s screenings, the child is referred for an eye exam. Identification of vision problems at an early age can help prevent a child from struggling in school or being misdiagnosed with a learning disability.

The grant will help provide funding for screenings for approximately sixty-eight children, and educational programming to one-hundred and twenty-two children.

“Central Susquehanna Sight Services stresses the importance of preschool vision screenings. Many children do not have a professional eye exam before kindergarten. Our screening may prompt parents to do that,” said Shelly Stroble, Executive Director for the agency.

“The Union County Community Foundation is pleased to provide support for a program that will benefit so many children in our county. Eyesight is the essential building block to reading,

that opens the window to the world,” said Lonnie Hill, Chairman of the Union County Community Foundation Advisory Board.

The Union County Community Foundation awards grants from its unrestricted funds through a competitive grant process. Information on the criteria for grant awards and applications are available by calling the Foundation’s offices toll free at (866) 901-2372, or through the website, www.fcfpa.org.

The Union County Community Foundation was established by Union County service clubs in 1993. The Foundation affiliated with the First Community Foundation of Pennsylvania in 2005. As an affiliate, the Union County Community Foundation has its own community-based Advisory Board that determines the focus and grant making of the organization.

The First Community Foundation of Pennsylvania has three affiliates: the Williamsport-Lycoming Community Foundation, the Danville Area Community Foundation, and the Union County Community Foundation. The Foundation maximizes the power of people and their donated assets to build vibrant communities within Central and Northcentral Pennsylvania now and in the future. The Foundation focuses on sincerity and integrity in all of its relationships - including those with donors, estate and financial planning professionals, trustee banks and investment managers, current and potential grant recipients, government and business leaders, and the many individuals and families living in its service area. For more information on the programs and services offered by the Foundation, or to learn more about ways to make a difference in the community, contact the Foundation office at (570) 321-1500, or toll free at (866) 901-2372.

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