

## **Washington County Merchant Community Fund Launched**

Equity Commerce is pleased to announce the creation of WashCo Merchant Community Fund, in partnership with the Community Foundation of Washington County MD, Inc. This fund will be part of the Foundation's family of unrestricted community funds, the earnings from which will serve the most important needs in our communities, as determined by the Board's Grants Committee. These funds will enable the Foundation to improve the quality of life for all citizens, by addressing the county's changing needs and by providing leadership on key community issues.

"We are thrilled to have Equity Commerce on board with us because they are breaking new ground—they are the first business to create a fund at the Community Foundation," states Brad Sell, executive director of the Community Foundation of Washington County, MD. "We hope that other businesses will see the benefits of creating a fund to achieve their charitable goals, and we thank Equity Commerce for leading the way."

With this new Merchant Community fund, local merchants in Washington County who use Equity Commerce as their credit card payment processing company will have a portion of their credit card fees contributed to the WashCo Merchant Community Fund. "We want to create a way in which we can share our success and make a meaningful, long term contribution to our community," said Jeff Brown, president of Equity Commerce. "The fund was established with an initial contribution of \$5,000 from Equity Commerce."

"We want to encourage giving on a local level. We have been a part of the business community in Washington County since January 2005." states Brown.

For more information, please contact Equity Commerce. 301.790.3444 or the Community Foundation of Washington County at 391.745.5210.

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