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PEOPLE'S UNITED COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S \$100,000 GRANT TO DONORSCHOOSE.ORG REACHES MORE THAN 27,000 STUDENTS

BRIDGEPORT, CT – People's United Community Foundation, the philanthropic arm of People's United Bank, awarded a \$100,000 grant to DonorsChoose.org to provide students in public schools with the resources and materials they need to learn. During the six-month campaign, the \$100,000 grant reached more than 27,000 students in public schools throughout the communities the bank serves in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New York, New Hampshire and Maine.

People's United Community Foundation joined DonorsChoose.org as a "Double Your Impact" matching program partner in support of youth development initiatives that improve the quality of education in school districts that serve low-to-moderate-income students. Through the DonorsChoose.org website, teachers submitted project requests for classroom materials and resources, of which eligible classroom projects received 50 percent matching funds from People's United Community Foundation. The \$100,000 grant was allocated toward 442 classroom projects, impacting a total of 27,299 students throughout its footprint.

"DonorsChoose.org is a wonderful resource for public school teachers who are faced with the challenges of school budget cuts and limited classroom materials," said Vincent Santilli, Executive Director of People's United Community Foundation. "We are proud of the positive impact that our funding has had on students in underserved communities and are thankful for the tremendous support from individual donors who matched our contribution."

Through the "Double Your Impact" campaign, DonorsChoose.org called upon citizens to activate the People's United Community Foundation matching funds by visiting the DonorsChoose.org website and making a contribution to a People's United Community Foundation-supported project. A total of 1,714 donors matched the People's United Community Foundation grant, helping to bring the 442 classroom projects to funding completion.

"People's United Community Foundation has allowed DonorsChoose.org to reach even more teachers that need resources in their classrooms while also engaging more citizens in supporting our public schools," said Charles Best, founder and CEO of DonorsChoose.org. "On behalf of the nearly 30,000 students People's United Community Foundation has impacted, we are truly grateful."

About the People’s United Community Foundation

Established in 2007, People’s United Community Foundation was formed to help support programs and activities that enhance the quality of life for citizens in the communities that People’s United Bank serves. People’s United Bank, founded in 1842 and serving customers from New York to Maine through a network of 361 branches, is the largest independent bank headquartered in New England. The Foundation places special emphasis on programs designed to promote economic self-sufficiency, education and improved conditions for low-income families and neighborhoods. The funding priorities of the Foundation include: community development, youth development, and affordable housing.

About DonorsChoose.org

Founded in 2000, DonorsChoose.org is an online charity that makes it easy for anyone to help students in need. Public school teachers from every corner of America post requests, and individuals can give directly to the ones that inspire them. To date, 232,000 public and charter school teachers have used DonorsChoose.org to secure \$117 million in books, art supplies, technology, and other resources that their students need to learn.

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Students who received classroom learning materials through People’s United Community Foundation’s “Double Your Impact” campaign funding.