



## PRESS RELEASE

214 Ninth St.  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
(570) 251-9993  
wccf@ptd.net  
Fax (570) 251-9904

### **Wayne County Community Foundation Receives Verizon Foundation Grant to Support Internet Safety Program in Area Schools**

HAWLEY, PA - November 20, 2009.

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Today, the Wayne County Community Foundation announced an unprecedented joint effort with the Wayne County District Attorney Mike Lehutsky, Pike County District Attorney Ray Tonkin, Monroe County District Attorney Dave Christine and the Verizon Foundation to educate local school children on navigating the internet safely.

The Wayne County Community Foundation announced they would be receiving a \$20,000.00 grant from the Verizon Foundation to fund the introduction and expansion of the I-Safe internet safety program in every school district in Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties. The I-Safe program incorporates classroom curriculum with community outreach to empower students, teachers, parents, and law enforcement to make the internet a safer place for children.

Wayne County Community Foundation Executive Director Paul Edwards noted, "The Wayne County Community Foundation will do all that it can to be successful in making our children safe on the internet. We are proud to partner with the District Attorneys of Wayne, Pike, and Monroe Counties in addressing the problem of internet safety for kids. We are indeed thankful to Verizon for its generous grant to jumpstart this collaboration."

This unprecedented joint effort of cooperation between the Verizon Foundation, each local District Attorney's Office, and every local school district will take a major step in protecting our local children from the hazards of the internet.

"Our children are growing up in a digital world. Its how they communicate, learn, and share ideas." said Daniel J. Reavy, Director-External Affairs, Verizon Pennsylvania. "Online technology has had a tremendous impact on our society, and its role will continue to grow with further advances. Verizon is proud to partner with Wayne County District Attorney Mike Lehutsky, Pike County District Attorney Ray Tonkin, Monroe County District Attorney Dave Christine, the Wayne County Community Foundation, and the local school districts in this important and innovative initiative to keep children and families safe throughout Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties."

The I-Safe gold program will be purchased for each school district. Each district will then direct the educational efforts in cooperation with local law enforcement to educate students in the district. For more information on the I-safe program visit [www.i-safe.org](http://www.i-safe.org).

Contacts:

Dan Reavy  
Director, External Affairs  
Verizon - Pennsylvania  
Office 215.362.1900/Fax 215.368.3311  
Office 610.740.0220/Fax 610.432.7191  
[www.verizon.com/pa](http://www.verizon.com/pa)  
Find us on Facebook

Michael Lehutsky  
District Attorney  
Wayne County  
925 Court Street  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
(570) 253-4912  
[mlehutsky@co.wayne.pa.us](mailto:mlehutsky@co.wayne.pa.us)  
[www.WayneCountyDA.com](http://www.WayneCountyDA.com)

David Christine  
District Attorney  
Monroe County  
7<sup>th</sup> and Monroe Streets  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
[dchristine@co.monroe.pa.us](mailto:dchristine@co.monroe.pa.us)

Paul Edwards, Executive Director  
Wayne County Community Foundation  
214 Ninth Street  
Honesdale, PA 18431  
(570) 251-9993  
[wccf@ptd.net](mailto:wccf@ptd.net)

Raymond Tonkin  
District Attorney  
Pike County  
Pike County Admin. Bldg.  
506 Broad Street  
Milford, PA 18337  
[daoffice@pikepa.org](mailto:daoffice@pikepa.org)