



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Welcome Back Campaign: Teacher Appreciation and Support
50 ING DIRECT volunteers put together back to school care packages for 1500 teachers**

ING DIRECT's Sixth Annual Orange Days of Giving Lends Helpful Hands to Community Projects With Communities In Schools of Delaware at ING DIRECT Café in Wilmington

Wilmington, DE – Associates at ING DIRECT believe strongly in giving back to their communities. To put their beliefs into action, more than 50 volunteers will lend a helping hand at the Orange Café on Delaware Avenue on August 16th from 8am to 4pm. The project is a part of ING DIRECT's sixth annual Orange Days of Giving.

Jim Purcell, President of Communities In Schools of Delaware and ING DIRECT partnered on this activity to, "welcome our teachers back, saying how much we admire their dedication to our students and community." Purcell, also stated that, "through partnerships and volunteerism like the Orange Days of Giving we connect our community, encourage of teachers, empower our students and make our schools a shining beacon of hope."

Communities In Schools surrounds our students with a community of support bringing caring adults in the form of site coordinators, mentors and community members to address many unmet needs of our students. Communities In Schools has a special bond with our teachers always looking to help them assist students with social or academic needs. Community members from ING DIRECT provided an opportunity for us to show our respect and appreciation for those teachers who work hard to position our youth for success. ING DIRECT associates provided sponsorship, funding and their time and efforts to help construct 1,500 tote bags filled with useful school supplies (i.e. pens, pencils, note pads, water bottles, flash drives, tape, glue sticks among, etc.) The tote bags filled with teacher classroom materials will be constructed by ING DIRECT associates and distributed by CISDE staff and volunteers to Communities In Schools locations in Wilmington, Dover, Milford and Georgetown.

To date, ING DIRECT Associates throughout the East Coast, Midwest and West Coast locations have dedicated thousands of hours during the Orange Days of Giving toward charitable causes that support the bank's mission of assisting communities through economic empowerment, financial education and life skills. ING DIRECT and Associates work year round on projects to instill the basics of earning, learning, saving, spending and investing so others can make informed financial decisions and improve their quality of life. When financial education is coupled with life skill lessons, those in need are given the building blocks to a more secure future.

About ING DIRECT

[ING DIRECT](#), the nation's largest direct bank, is dedicated to inspiring Americans to become a nation of savers. Since its inception in 2000, more than 7.6 million Americans have entrusted their Savings with ING DIRECT, building the bank to nearly \$83.0 billion in deposits as of December 31, 2011. ING DIRECT has developed a comprehensive social media [Savers Community](#), including [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and it's [We, The Savers](#) blog.

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About Communities In Schools of Delaware

Communities In Schools (CIS) is the nation's leading dropout prevention organization, and is the only one proven to increase graduation rates and decrease dropout rates. CIS surrounds students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve in life. Through a school-based coordinator, CIS connects students and their families to critical community resources, tailored to local needs. Working in more than 3,400 schools in the most challenged communities, in 25 states and the District of Columbia, CIS focuses its activities in the most disadvantaged districts, serving nearly 1.3 million young people and their families every year. In Delaware we're located in 12 schools serving over 10,000 students in rural and urban areas of Delaware. www.cisdelaaware.org. [Facebook](#)

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