



## **First Niagara Announces the Release of *Community First***

*-- Community investment and commitment highlighted in report --*

BUFFALO, N.Y., May 20, 2013 – The First Niagara Foundation is releasing *Community First*, a report highlighting First Niagara’s community commitment and the impact the organization made during 2012.

The report highlights First Niagara’s charitable initiatives and volunteer efforts with community partners. The results produced demonstrate the effective collaboration that exists between our employees, customers and communities to make our neighborhoods stronger and alive with possibilities.

First Niagara’s philanthropic giving focuses on supporting **Youth and Education and Community Development and Neighborhood Revitalization**. These priority areas are relevant for us as a financial institution and collectively identified as urgent needs in the communities we serve across New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

“Everyone at First Niagara, from our teammates to our customers, values our volunteer and philanthropic giving efforts,” said Elizabeth Gurney, Executive Director of the First Niagara Foundation. “We’ve seen the difference we can make in our communities by creating opportunities for everyone to learn, grow and achieve their dreams.”

*Community First* can be viewed through First Niagara’s newly updated website [www.firstniagara.com/community](http://www.firstniagara.com/community). The website includes a complete listing of 2012 grants and sponsorships.

### **About The First Niagara Foundation**

First Niagara Foundation is a not for profit corporation founded in 1998. The Foundation is committed to supporting organizations in the communities in which we live and work with specific focus on youth and education, community development and neighborhood revitalization. In 2012 the Foundation contributed more than \$10 million in charitable grants to community partners. For more information, visit [www.firstniagara.com/community](http://www.firstniagara.com/community).

### **About First Niagara**

First Niagara, through its wholly owned subsidiary, First Niagara Bank, N.A., is a multi-state community-oriented bank with approximately 430 branches, approximately \$36 billion in assets, \$28 billion in deposits, and approximately 6,000 employees providing financial services to individuals, families and businesses across Upstate New York, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts. For more information, visit [www.firstniagara.com](http://www.firstniagara.com).