

For Immediate Release

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OritaniBank Charitable Foundation Donates \$5,000 to the Todd Ouida Children's Foundation

Township of Washington, NJ – June 16, 2011 – The OritaniBank Charitable Foundation recently awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Todd Ouida Children's Foundation in support of Zippy's Friends, an in-school social and coping skills program that helps young children deal with issues such as bullying, loneliness, change and loss. The Todd Ouida Children's Foundation has pledged to match the grant, which will finance the introduction of the Zippy's Friends program to more New Jersey schools this fall.

"We are honored to join the Ouida family and their foundation in supporting Zippy's Friends," said Kevin J. Lynch, President of the OritaniBank Charitable Foundation and Chairman, President and CEO of Oritani Bank. "This innovative program provides the children of our community with the tools to face present and future challenges, helping them to reach their full potential."

The Todd Ouida Children's Foundation has been instrumental in bringing the Zippy's Friends program to the United States. Developed in England to help teachers address the social and emotional needs of children ages 5-7 through engaging stories and fun activities, the Zippy's Friends curriculum has been successfully implemented in Hackensack, Paterson, River Edge, Tenafly, Paterson, Ridgefield Park and other school districts in NJ and NYC.

Herb and Andrea Ouida established the Todd Ouida Children's Foundation in late 2001 to honor their son, a New Jersey native and Cantor Fitzgerald trader who died in the Sept. 11 World Trade Center terrorist attacks. Inspired by Todd's successful fight against childhood anxiety, the foundation is dedicated to early intervention and helping children who suffer from anxiety and depression. The foundation's funds are administered through the Community Foundation of NJ. For more information, visit www.mybuddytodd.org.

Training and follow-up support services for the Zippy's Friends program is provided to teachers by Youth Consultation Services (YCS), based in East Orange, NJ. YCS is one of the leading private, non-profit providers of behavioral health, education and social services for children and their families in New Jersey with nearly 90 programs throughout the state. Further information is available at <u>www.ycs.org</u>.

The OritaniBank Charitable Foundation was established in 2007 to assist not-for-profit organizations that help improve the quality of life for residents in Bergen, Hudson, and Passaic counties. Since its inception, the Foundation has donated more than \$2 million to local charitable organizations, primarily in support of education, health & human services, youth programs, and affordable housing. Oritani Bank is a 100 year old community bank with over \$2.5 billion in assets based in the Township of Washington, New Jersey. Oritani Bank's parent Oritani Financial Corp. is a publicly held company trading on the NASDAQ with the trading symbol "ORIT." Oritani Bank as 23 branches throughout Bergen, Hudson and Passaic Counties, and offers a full line of deposit and loan services to both retail and commercial customers. For more information, call 888-ORITANI, or visit their website, <u>www.oritani.com</u>.

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