



LEHIGH VALLEY **npr**® 93.9 FM Easton/Phillipsburg
COMMUNITY PUBLIC RADIO 93.7 FM Fogelsville/Trexlerstown

301 Broadway, Bethlehem Pa 18015 610-694-8100 fax 610-954-9474 www.wdiy.org

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
February 14, 2008

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**WDIY TO HOST LOCAL PROGRAM
ON LEHIGH VALLEY HOMELESS;
HOUR WILL LAUNCH
NPR ANNUAL HOMELESSNESS MARATHON**

(Lehigh Valley, PA) WDIY 88.1, Lehigh Valley Listener Supported Public Radio, will present an hour-long live special on the issue of Lehigh Valley Homelessness to launch the 14-hour National Public Radio (NPR) Homelessness Marathon Feb. 20. The Lehigh Valley program will be broadcast from 6 to 7 p.m.

According to Jim DeSouza, WDIY Director of News and Public Affairs, the local special is produced in conjunction with the Lehigh County Conference of Churches (LCCC) and will feature guest interviewers, a panel discussion and time for listener calls. Ira Faro, LCCC Development Senior Director, has teamed with DeSouza on the project.

“WDIY is proud to partner with the Conference and to offer the expertise of local officials who are addressing the needs of homeless people in our area each and every day,” DeSouza said. “Our guests will discuss the daily challenges and we’ll hear how the majority of homeless people in the Lehigh Valley are women and children.”

Tom Walker, LCCC’s Human Services Director, will interview “John,” a formerly homeless man who lived under a bridge in Allentown and now has an apartment and is employed. Roundtable participants and their topics include: Walker, who will discuss single homeless men and women who are disabled; the Rev. William Kunze, Executive Director of New Bethany Ministries, discussing homeless families; and Alan Jennings, Executive Director of the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, who will discuss advocacy.

Lisa Pawlowski, chair of the Allentown First Lady’s “Commission to End Chronic Homelessness in 10 Years,” will talk about the effort to bring together more than three dozen local public and private entities to form a concerted effort to address the issue.

There will be time for listener phone calls.

MORE



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Add one – WDIY Homelessness Programming

The NPR marathon special will originate from the Campus for Human Development in Nashville, TN and will be broadcast on more than 100 radio stations and Free Speech TV on the Dish Network. The Homelessness Marathon, the world's leading broadcast focusing on homelessness and poverty, originates from a different city every year. The non-commercial broadcast does not raise money for charity, but rather attempts to raise consciousness by covering a broad range of topics, speaking with experts, taking calls from around the country and, above all, by putting homeless people on the air directly.

For more information, www.wdiy.org or www.homelessnessmarathon.org.

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Lehigh Valley Community Public Radio is a non-commercial, listener supported radio station heard on WDIY 88.1 FM Allentown/Bethlehem, 93.7 FM Fogelsville/Trexlerstown, 93.9 FM Easton/Phillipsburg, and at www.wdiy.org. The LVCBA / WDIY 88.1 FM provides

WDIY-FM is operated by the Lehigh Valley Community Broadcasters Association, a charitable organization as defined by section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The official registration statement and financial information of the Association may be obtained from the PA Dept. of State by calling toll free 800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

wdiy 88.1

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management support to WXLV 90.3 FM of Lehigh Carbon Community College. For information about that agreement, please contact Dennise M. Kowalczyk at 610-694-8100 ext. 2 or execdir@wdiy.org.

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