

WDIY's Fall Membership Drive Provides 14,693 Meals to Second Harvest Food Bank

By WDIY

(Lehigh Valley, PA) – WDIY's 2022 Fall Membership Drive provided 14,693 meals to individuals in need through Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania. The cost of the meals was covered through a partnership with Bethlehem-based financial services firm Valley National Financial Advisors.

Through this unique three-way partnership, every \$100 that was donated to WDIY during the station's fundraiser resulted in Valley National Financial Advisors providing the

funds to Second Harvest to deliver 21 meals. Second Harvest's network of agencies which receive meals include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, childcare facilities and rehabilitation facilities.

WDIY executive director Greg Capogna said partnerships like this resonate with the station's listeners. "We've shifted away from offering premiums like tote bags and keychains in recent years. Our listeners tell us they appreciate programs that help those in need in our community."

WDIY has used its Fall Membership Drive to benefit Second Harvest since 2012. To date, WDIY's Fall Membership Drives have provided over 107,000 meals to Lehigh Valley residents through similar partnerships. Valley National Financial Advisors has partnered with WDIY to cover the costs of the meals since 2017.

"A stronger community is a stronger business for us," said Matt Petrozelli, CEO of Valley National Financial Advisors about why his business chose to partner with WDIY again. "We've been in business for 37 years and Second Harvest Food Bank has been doing a tremendous amount of good to help with the food shortage issues that we've had, especially with inflation, COVID and everything that's happened over the last couple of years. It's tremendously important that people have access to good quality food."

Also helping with the meal donations was the estate of Janet Goloub, which doubled the meal impact for contributors on three specific days of the Fall Membership Drive. The estate covered the cost of 1,852 of the 14,693 total meals.

WDIY's Fall Membership Drive successfully wrapped up on October 28th. The annual drive is the largest fundraiser of the year for WDIY. The drive provides essential funding for the operation of the station.

Commissioners Award Historic Preservation Grants

By Art Charlton

(WHITE TOWNSHIP, NJ - Projects to refurbish historic structures throughout Warren County have been awarded grants totaling more than a half million dollars.

The Warren County Board of County Commissioners awarded four grants totaling \$541,976 that were recommended by the 12-member Municipal and Charitable Conservancy Trust Fund Committee (MCCT-FC).

The grants are funded through the County's Open Space Trust, which is supported by a voter-approved dedicated tax. Since the program began, 162 grants have now assisted local historic and open space projects in each of Warren County's 22 municipalities. The following projects have been approved:

Town of Belvidere – Scout Home

- \$43,700 for the continued restoration of the Belvidere Scout Home. Work on the Scout Home will include HVAC and electrical upgrades, interior repairs, and carpentry work.

Constructed on the property of one of Belvidere's mills in 1876, the structure has been used since 1939 as a Scout Home and is one of just a handful left in the country. Now owned by the Town of Belvidere, the building provides a friendly and secure meeting place for local organizations including the Belvidere Scout Troop 141 (which was chartered in March 1912 and is coincidentally celebrating its 110th anniversary this year), Cub Scout Pack, all Girl Scouts levels, and Lions Club. Incorporated as a town in 1845, today Belvidere's charming historic district includes 260 buildings, the majority of which date from the nineteenth century and are constructed in the Victorian architectural style.

Township of Hope – Community Center

- \$99,750 for the continued restoration of the Hope Community Center. Work on the Community Center will include restoring the Gothic windows and flooring.

The 1773 Moravian Log Tavern once stood on the site of the current Hope Community Center. Predating the American Revolution, the Tavern provided food and lodging for travelers along the major stagecoach route to Kingston, New York. On a journey from Philadelphia to his winter headquarters in Newburgh, New York, George Washington dined at the Tavern in July of 1782 with some of his soldiers and Moravian Bishop John Ettwein. Sixty years later the Tavern was lost in a fire and in 1841 the Christian Church was constructed on the site. Today, the stone church structure is used as the primary community gathering place for the Township of Hope, a picturesque and architecturally exquisite village originally settled by Moravians in 1769.

