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COUNTY OF DELAWARE
GOVERNMENT CENTER BUILDING
201 W. FRONT STREET
MEDIA, PENNSYLVANIA

610-891-4931
FAX NUMBER 610-891-8055
E-MAIL: delcopr@co.delaware.pa.us

Department of Public Relations
William A. Lovejoy, Jr.
Director

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Contact: **Trish Cofell**
Communications Officer
610-891-4943

**MLK Day “Hoops From the Heart” benefits
Community Action Agency of Delaware County**

County Council joins CAADC and young athletes to raise funds and food donations

Basketball players across the county will drive to the hoop on Martin Luther King Jr. Day to raise funds and food donations for the Community Action Agency of Delaware County, the county’s anti-poverty agency that helps families and individuals to move toward self-sufficiency.

Called “Hoops From the Heart,” the MLK Day of Service initiative was started in 2002 and has since raised \$50,000 for Community Action Agency (CAADC) programs that serve low-income residents in Delaware County.

Five basketball clinics will be held from 9 a.m.-noon Monday, Jan. 16, at Cabrini College in Radnor, Haverford College in Haverford, Neumann University in Aston, Widener University in Chester and Springfield High School. Delaware County Council members will visit the clinics and enlist the help of Delaware County Community Service vans to collect and deliver food donations.

County Council was joined at the Jan. 11 County Council meeting by CAADC Director Ed Coleman and Haverford College women’s basketball coach Bobbi Morgan to announce the MLK Day of Service event on Jan. 16.

Coleman credited Debbie Lamborn, CAADC senior manager of development, and Coach Morgan for spearheading this effort to involve young athletes in a day of service to help Delaware County residents in-need.

The men’s and women’s basketball teams at each school conduct the Jan. 16 clinics, which are open to boys and girls in grades one through eight.

All proceeds raised during “Hoops From the Heart” benefit CAADC programs, which include emergency housing, social services, employment training and life skills training.

In addition, each athlete is asked to donate a non-perishable food item that will go to the Life Center of Eastern Delaware County, one of CAADC’s emergency housing programs. The Life Center is located at 63rd and Market streets, Upper Darby, and houses 50 individuals and serves over 160 residents each year.

On Jan. 16, Delaware County Council Chairman Tom McGarrigle, along with new Council members Colleen P. Morrone, John P. McBlain and David P. White, will utilize a Community Service van to pick up the food donations at each basketball clinic and deliver them to the Life Center. They are partnering with Lamborn to attend the clinics and collect the food donations.

(more)

(MLK Day of Service continued)

“This is a great initiative that involves our youth in Delaware County, and benefits people in need, which are goals that embody the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr.,” Councilman White said. “Dr. King was committed to justice, to serving others and to ending poverty and this event, being held on a Day of Service in his honor, is a wonderful example of how our youth, our educational institutions and our communities can make a difference in people’s lives.”

For information about the 11th annual “Hoops From the Heart” event contact Debbie Lamborn at CAADC, 484-802-7708.

Councilman Mario J. Civera Jr. will attend the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Breakfast on Jan. 16 at the Drexelbrook, hosted every year by the Community YMCA of Eastern Delaware County, Christ Lutheran Church, Prayer Chapel, and area schools.

He plans to join his fellow Council members at the Life Center in Upper Darby to assist in delivering the food to the emergency housing program.



Athletes Go to the Hoop for Martin Luther King Day

Caption: Delaware County Council will team up with Community Action Agency of Delaware County (CAADC) and student athletes at five local schools for “Hoops From the Heart,” a Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service initiative that raises money for people in need in Delaware County. Getting ready for the Jan. 16 event are, from left, Ed Coleman, CAADC director; Debbie Lamborn of CAADC, the event coordinator along with Bobbi Morgan, women’s basketball coach at Haverford College; Council Vice Chairman Mario Civera Jr., Chairman Tom McGarrigle tossing the basketball; and Haverford basketball players Victoria Sobocinski, Calla Miller, Dominique Meeks and Meredith Schoyer. In the back row are Council members John McBlain, Colleen Morrone and David White.