

BEASLEY MEDIA GROUP, LLC  
Issue and Program Report  
for  
Station WBEN HD2  
4th Quarter  
(October 1 – December 31, 2023)

Prepared by  
Lora Lewis

## **WBEN-HD2 PROGRAMS THAT ADDRESS COMMUNITY ISSUES**

FOCUS ON THE DELAWARE VALLEY, Sundays at 6:00AM and 6:30AM

A 30-minute Public Affairs program, hosted and produced by Lora Lewis for Beasley Media Group. Two different episodes air each Sunday, at 6:00 and 6:30AM.

### **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WJBR FM programs recorded Public Service Announcements of general concern throughout the day.

**ISSUES OF CONCERN TO WBEN-HD2  
ADDRESSED IN RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING IN THE 4th QUARTER, 2023**

**Government/Regional Development**

Military

Environment

**Economy**

Business

Personal Finance

Economic Opportunity

**Family Issues**

Education

Activities

Relationships

Childcare

**Health & Public Safety**

Crime prevention

Health Information

Home Safety

**Minority / Women's Issues**

## **Issue: Government**

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 15, 6:30AM

December 3, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Larry Magid, Co-founder of Electric Factory Concerts, and Derek Gillman, Distinguished Teaching Professor for Art History and Museum Leadership at Drexel University, and the Executive Director, University Collections and Exhibitions discussed Philadelphia's music scene. Larry, who produced shows including Live Aid and Live 8, reminisces about staging these spectacles and talks about Philadelphia's unique ability to present these live performances and the impact that Electric Factory and Electric Factory Concerts had on American culture.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 10, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Jeffrey Abramowitz, JD, CEO of The Petey Greene Project, discussed their work in helping the incarcerated and formerly incarcerated access a quality education through volunteer tutors. The PGP is one of few groups focused on the pre-collegiate level and he shared statistics, only 20% of formerly incarcerated people have a high school diploma, one third have a GED, and less than 4% have a college degree. Without a high school credential, unemployment rates among formerly incarcerated people range from 25% to 60%. The PGP works by helping incarcerated and formerly incarcerated people obtain a high school or other credential and prepare for postsecondary success. Working with the incarcerated, they set educational goals, GED, getting into college or a skilled profession, to help them find jobs, regain family and reestablish themselves outside of prison. We discussed the biggest barrier to employment – and higher education – the 'box' applicants must check if they have been convicted of a felony. We talked about local programs that lead to skilled jobs and the social/work skills that they need to keep a job, programs including Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and Philabundance. We also spoke of the educational work by Eastern State Penitentiary.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 26, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30 minute program

Ann Deschamps, Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center discussed the Americans With Disabilities Act, its history and where we stand today with its promises of access and opportunity for nearly one in four of us. The Mid-Atlantic ADA Center is one of ten regional offices charged with educating the public on ADA, serving the DC area, DE, MD, PA, VA and WV. It conducts research and training programs. Its free technical assistance line - 800-949-4232 – helps individuals and businesses on topics such as accommodations, businesses' rights/responsibilities under the law, service animals, public right of way, and more. Ann also manages the ADA Trainer Leadership Network, which works to expand ADA training opportunities in local communities. We

discussed the term 'disability' and what constitutes a protected class. She points out that many of us are an accident or illness away from becoming 'disabled,' including age-related issues such as failing hearing or vision.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 17, 2023 7:00AM

20 minutes of a 30-minute program

Paul Steinke, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia discussed the member-supported non-profit, that works to increase awareness and appreciation for the area's historic and significant building and districts, using preservation as a tool for creating and maintaining sustainable, livable neighborhoods. He spoke of their resources and advice for people and communities looking to preserve properties, their workshops and speaker series and their popular walking tours. He spoke about the impact of preservation on the community, retaining the character that makes each neighborhood unique and the long-range impact on climate change and the environment, restoring cost far less in resources than tearing down and rebuilding. We discussed the role of City Council on establishing districts and preserving homes and buildings. He told us of funding available from the city, state and federal government that offer funding for repairing and maintaining homes – including homes not on the protected list. A guide for seeking a designation and information about existing properties can be found on their website.

## **Issue: Economy**

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 14, 2023 7:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Larry Needle, Executive Director of PHL SPORTS, part of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, discussed his office's work in bringing sports convention and travel business to Philadelphia and the surrounding area. Formed as the Philadelphia Sports Congress, PHL Sports pitches this city for professional, amateur and collegiate sports. Citing the incredible infrastructure Philadelphia boasts, including hotels, restaurants, a subway and public transit and of course, the sports complex, he described the draw of Philadelphia. Sports travelers need food and entertainment beyond their events and Philadelphia has museums, parks and children's attractions nearby. He talked about the impact sports has on our economy, beyond their initial spending, they are more likely to return to the city for vacations or other events.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 22, 2023 6:30AM

30 minutes

Jeff Ronald, MS Co-Founder & Chairman of the Board and Judson Malone, Co-Founder and Volunteer Executive Director of The Springboard Collaborative, Inc. discussed the statewide Delaware nonprofit dedicated to building dignified dwellings and real communities for the homeless. Inspired by Denmark and Finland's housing solutions

and the Stanford's Collective Impact, they provide simple, pod housing that offers privacy, security, and that important physical mailing address. Working with area social service providers, TSC provides disadvantaged Delawareans low or no cost interim shelter in a small community that offers 'wrap around' services that focus on food security, education and employment opportunities, substance abuse and mental health treatment and primary and specialized healthcare. They help our marginalized neighbors stabilize, achieve self-reliance and pursue their full potential, all aimed at achieving financial wellness toward getting and keeping permanent housing. TSC goal by 2029 is ultimately achieving 'Functional Zero' homelessness in Delaware. "We can transform Delaware into a state with near-real-time, sustainable zero homelessness... Join us in making Vision2029 a reality...homelessness is solvable."

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 5, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Dan Lombardo, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Alexis Deegan, Vice President of Development of Volunteers of America Delaware Valley discussed their ongoing mission and programming. VOADV serves more than 13,000 individuals throughout the southern New Jersey and Philadelphia region and operates more than 40 assistance programs – from homelessness, reentry, veterans' assistance, and affordable housing services to specialized programs for individuals living with substance use disorder, traumatic brain injury and/or intellectual disabilities. VOADV's mission, which governs all service and assistance provided to clients in need, is to provide community-based assistance to individuals in need so that they can lead self-fulfilled, independent lives. They are more than crisis relief, donations allow them to provide the follow-up services to help families and individuals continue their path to independence. We talked about the current economics that are driving the need, he estimates that requests have grown over 65% from last year, housing and employment driving the surge. Dan discussed their family shelters, 2 men's shelters, one medical respite shelter and one veterans' shelter. They also have 2 men and 1 women's halfway house and other Reentry programs making the transition back to the community more seamless for individuals coming back from prison.

He spoke of their new launches, a tri-county IMPACT office which helps clients navigate through social services will be opening at the end of November in Vineland and they are preparing to launch a mobile legal clinic.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 19, 2023 6:00AM

December 24, 2023 6:00AM

15 minutes of a 30 minute program

Ann Deschamps, Executive Director of the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center discussed one of the largest barriers to employment and full acceptance that isn't transportation - attitudinal issues. How do you change our society's concept of disabilities? We talked about young people and their views on disabilities having grown up post Act, and we talked about COVID's impact on work from home, a leveler in employment opportunities for the disabled.

## **Issue: Family**

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 1, 2023 6:00AM

November 5, 2023 6:00AM

30 minutes

Leah Walker, Founding President of Frogs for Life, and Julie Edwards, Certified Child Life Specialist at Nemours Children's Hospital, discussed Frogs For Life, a charity founded by Leah and her family in honor of her late son, Tommy. Tommy had been treated at Nemours' Cardiac Center where the family discovered the Child Life programming, Julie discussed the services, free to patients and their families, bringing art and music, toys and therapy pets, counseling and other supports to families during their treatment. After Tommy passed Leah and her family continued to support the special needs for the patients and families of the Cardia Care Center. She and husband Luke began with a grass-roots effort soliciting help from family and friends, today it is a registered charity, named for their son's favorite toy, that provides anything from toys and clothing, to gear for the patients and families being treated at Nemours. Julie explains the value of Child Life programming, it's more than entertainment and diversion for young patients, it helps with rehabilitation and communication between patient and caregiver. Leah described her experiences with Child Life that continues today with her older daughter Schuyler who also has the heart condition. She and her little sister Sadie are already helping with Frogs for Life.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 1, 2023 6:30AM

30 minutes

Major Timothy A. Sheehan, Delaware State Coordinator for The Salvation Army, discussed the annual Red Kettle Campaign, a fundraiser that supports their programming year-round. We talked about the numbers of families seeking assistance this year, more families than ever will be looking to the Salvation Army Delaware for not just toys, but food and emergency relief at the holidays. Last year they saw a 60% increase in requests for food. He described the programs the holiday giving supports, including emergency shelters, job training, addiction treatment and support, aid for the chronic homeless, their Anti-Human Trafficking work, as well as their kids' camps, music lessons and after-school offerings, and services for the elderly. He reminded us that funds raised stay in Delaware and that a \$25 donation to The Salvation Army helps provide a child in need a safe place to stay, \$50 helps feed 39 hungry stomachs, \$100 can provide three nights of shelter for someone in need and a \$500 donation helps provide a month of meals for a Delaware family of four. You can support them at any Red Kettle location with cash or contactless electronic pay, by volunteering, or even donating or shopping at their thrift stores.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 8, 2023 6:00AM

December 4, 2023 6:30AM

30 minutes

Clarice Ritchie, Executive Director, and Kate Rosenthal, Marketing and Events Manager, discussed PAWS for People, a nonprofit organization committed to improving the lives of people in our community by lovingly providing individualized, therapeutic visits with specially trained volunteers and their certified gentle, affectionate dogs, cats and bunnies. They visit clients in hospitals and skilled care facilities, chemical dependency centers and elementary schools, as well as libraries and home-visits, each year tens of thousands of people are experiencing the benefits of one-on-one therapeutic visits. They discussed how children will confide in a dog in a medical setting, revealing info to their caregivers. Students struggling will gladly read aloud to them while older clients get to enjoy the companionship of a favored pet. PAWS pet therapy volunteer teams consist of one volunteer and one pet who are trained – both volunteer and animal - and then commit to making therapeutic visits at least twice a month at a partnering site. The fees paid by clients or institutions who host visits covered the training and the insurance so volunteers don't have to worry about taking their pets to homes, hospitals or libraries. They note they currently have over 450 volunteer teams visiting 160+ locations in DE, MD, PA & NJ. They are looking for more volunteers and pets – especially cats – to allow them to fulfil their many requests, especially in the Philadelphia area. The annual winter Conference & Annual Meeting is a day filled with informative workshops, a keynote address, and food is open to all pet lovers and pet enthusiasts who are interested in learning more about the world of pet therapy or animal health & wellness. The next conference will be held in February or March of 2024. Finally we discussed their upcoming fundraiser, the Wag & Walkathon, is a month-long cumulative marathon (26.2 miles) kicking off Thursday, September 21st and culminate on Saturday, October 21st with a special Cross the Finish Line event at Glasgow Park in Newark, DE with family-friendly fun, entertainment, food, doggie contests, and challenges. Registration is now open, you can create a team or participate as an individual and they have bumper stickers that show you've completed a marathon! People of all ages can get pledges and participate with their family, friends, and neighbors.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 15, 2023, 6:30AM

December 3, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Larry Magid, Co-founder of Electric Factory Concerts, and Derek Gillman, Distinguished Teaching Professor for Art History and Museum Leadership at Drexel University, and the Executive Director, University Collections and Exhibitions which will mount ELECTRIFIED: 50 Years of Electric Factory, an exhibition celebrating and exploring the impact that Electric Factory and Electric Factory Concerts had on American culture discussed the exhibit and Drexel's programming for the music business, one of the reasons Larry is supporting this retrospective.



Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 29, 2023 6:00AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Dan Lombardo, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Alexis Deegan, Vice President of Development of Volunteers of America Delaware Valley discussed their ongoing mission and programming, discussed their current campaign, Adopt A Family. Alexis asks individuals, families and businesses to step to help families in need through the holiday season. While she's always looking for donations of underwear and socks and toiletries, at this time of year they look to provide families with wish-list items, from warm clothes to toys and sports gear. A record number of families have asked for assistance this year. You can adopt an entire family or go through their wish list at Amazon.com and let VOADV direct the gift. Learn more, from volunteering opportunities to Adopt-A-Family at VOADV.org.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 29, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Larry Needle, Executive Director of PHL SPORTS, part of the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau, discussed the large number of the world's biggest sporting events that will come to the region over the next five years, including six NCAA Championships, WrestleMania 40 in 2024 and an epic summer of 2026 which will include the PGA Championship, Major League Baseball All-Star Game and FIFA World Cup 2026. The storied Army-Navy Game will return in 2027.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 5, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30 minute program

Charles Fuschillo, President/CEO of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America returned to discuss the mission of the Alzheimer's Foundation, support and training for caregivers, research, political advocacy for housing, insurance and caregiver support, and education. To address the need for more information they have been 'on tour' of the US, sponsoring educational conferences for families and patients, caregivers and medical professionals, with a final stop in Philadelphia November 15 at the Doubletree on Broad Street. Speakers will include researchers, legal experts, practitioners and more, to address all aspects of life with Alzheimer's. Registration is free at alzfdn.org. Look for 'Events'

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 12, 2023 6:00AM

December 31, 2023 6:00AM

15 minutes of a 30-minute program

Tom Kamber, Executive Director of Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) and Senior Planet from AARP, shared the recent results of a new AARP tech survey among older adults, a majority of them have not taken steps to ensure they receive information during a disaster and are more likely to be unprepared if a disaster strikes. We discussed myths about older adults and technology; they can and will embrace it if it

meets their needs for entertainment and information. Tom and AARP are working to get more to use like disaster-related apps or text notifications from official national disaster resource agencies, just one in ten are using them. We spoke of basic needs in emergencies, from forced evacuation to sheltering in place and the resources available. He advises that doing anything – even if it’s just downloading an app, arranging a meeting place or buying a portable phone charger is better than doing nothing and help decrease your risk. He recommends taking advantage of free courses offered by AARP for members, caregivers and family, and making connections to help support each other.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 19, 2023 6:30AM

30-minutes

Bernadette Shanahan, CEO of Boys and Girls Club of Camden County discussed this chapter of the well-known youth organization and its mission, to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. Founded in 2001 through the efforts of philanthropist and Camden native Lewis Katz, the Camden County chapter serves kids ages six through high school from two locations with sports, homework help and tutoring, peer mentoring, STEM and STEAM classes, music programs, a drama program and a swimming pool. We talked about Camden today, a large urban city divided by many highways, with few opportunities for kids to socialize. While the city faces economic hardships, the neighborhoods are strong supportive communities that are invested in the Boys and Girls Club. Through grants and donations programs are offered free to the youth. We talked about ways to help, through donations and through volunteering, individuals and businesses can offer mentoring, job site visits, tutoring or office work.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 3, 2023 6:30AM

30-minutes

Derrick Pitts, Chief Astronomer at The Franklin Institute discussed the opening of their newest CORE exhibit, Wonderous Space, a two-story interactive installation demonstrating what it is like to live, work, and play in space while also showcasing the rich diversity of science and technology and the innovative people in the space industry. Dr. Pitts tells us that it looks at the universe and our relationship with it, from space travel to innovations that we use every day, such as satellite communications and microchip technology. With the opening of Wonderous Space the Franklin boasts space science on all 4 floors of the museum, with the Fels Planetarium on floor 1, the Holt & Miller Observatory on floor 4 and the 2-story Wondrous Space exhibit between them. The giant Fels dome—measuring 60 feet in diameter—displays how the actual night sky would look like without the interference of weather, pollution, or city lights. The Holt & Miller Observatory houses the 10” Carl Zeiss Refracting Telescope, one of the largest historical artifacts in their collection and it provides the opportunity to safely view the Sun, including features such as sunspots and prominences, while the rooftop location offers a unique view of the Philadelphia Skyline. Dr Pitts described the programming that will accompany the exhibit, as well as the on-going educational opportunities for

students and adult learners. He noted that diversity was an important part of the planning, showing the wide range of jobs and professions within space exploration and then introducing them to the scientists and developers who look like them. He also discussed the importance of STEM to encourage young people to join the field. We talked about membership and how to plan a visit to the Franklin to get the most from the experience, starting with the museum's website, FI.edu

Focus on the Delaware Valley  
December 10, 2023 6:00AM  
30-minutes

Dr. Keith Klosterman, a marriage and family therapist and Program Director for the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at SUNY Fredonia, discussed family mental health during the holidays. We discussed managing expectations and preparing ourselves for stressful situations through coping mechanisms that can be used throughout the year. He reminds us that it's okay to say 'no,' to plans or other requests for your time or to spending money. You don't have to be apologetic for living within your means or taking time for yourself. With your children he advises to practice, listening, patience and tolerance. Hear what they are saying, and answer questions and concerns honestly in age-appropriate terms. Stepping back and taking a deep breathe can help deescalate your reactions. Honesty is the key, based on their level of maturity and always remembering that kids are very astute and are often aware of their circumstances. Dr Klosterman reminds us that stress relief can come from just going outside, taking a walk or listening to music. We all experience stress, if you can anticipate it and be ready with your own coping devices, you'll get through the holidays, but if you're feeling overwhelmed and it's impacting your daily life and relationships, reach out. For more information and resources visit the American Psychologist's Association at APA. Org or the American Counseling Association at ACA.org. In a crisis call 988.

### **Issue: Health/Public Safety**

Focus on the Delaware Valley  
October 8, 2023 6:30AM  
20 minutes of a 30-minute program

Robb Reichard, Executive Director of AIDS Fund, and Fatima Sangare, Lead Medical Case manager for Bebash, discussed their work in prevention of HIV and care for those living with it as we approach the 37th Annual AIDS Walk Philly. AIDS Fund works with area service providers to make emergency grants directly to clients to allow them to maintain their treatment, housing and rent, transportation, food, co-pays, small amounts that could keep them from losing their home or becoming unable to stay with their treatment. Fatima offered examples of how these grants from the AIDS Fund have allowed her clients to stay housed and in treatment. Robb notes that 25% of new HIV and other STD transmissions are among young people, 13 to 24 and it is through sexual exposure. They discussed the need for more education and access to prevention for these groups. We spoke again of their goal, zero stigma, zero transmission and zero deaths. Robb explains stigma prevents information and education to get to those who

need it, transmission prevention is possible through PREP and PEP 'Morning After' medications, and through AIDS treatments that bring the virus to undetectable. He notes that with the introduction of PREP and new treatment the transmissions among white gay men has dropped considerably. We talked about this year's AIDS Walk Philly, October 15th from the Art Museum along Kelly Drive. Registration is now open with walk-ups welcome. The event will begin with the reading of names and a display of AIDS Quilt panels and all funds will support the grants offered through AIDS Fund.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 16, 2023 6:00AM

December 31, 2023 6:00AM

15 minutes

Tom Kamber, Executive Director of Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) and Senior Planet from AARP, shared the recent results of a new AARP tech survey among older adults, a majority of them have not taken steps to ensure they receive information during a disaster and are more likely to be unprepared if a disaster strikes. We discussed myths about older adults and technology; they can and will embrace it if it meets their needs for entertainment and information. Tom and AARP are working to get more to use like disaster-related apps or text notifications from official national disaster resource agencies, just one in ten are using them. We spoke of basic needs in emergencies, from forced evacuation to sheltering in place and the resources available. He advises that doing anything – even if it's just downloading an app, arranging a meeting place or buying a portable phone charger is better than doing nothing and help decrease your risk. He recommends taking advantage of free courses offered by AARP for members, caregivers and family, and making connections to help support each other.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 5, 2023 6:30AM

15 minutes of a 30 minute program

Charles Fuschillo, President/CEO of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America returned to discuss the latest on their programs and services and their upcoming Educational Conference in Philadelphia on November 15th. We began with a discussion of Alzheimer's disease, it is not 'dementia' nor an unavoidable part of the aging process. We discussed the numbers, in PA there are 280,000 plus living with it, two-thirds are women and those 'social determinates' – access to care, education, proper nutrition, can play a part in developing the disease. He spoke of the onset, from forgetting words and difficulty in planning, through changes in mood, confusion and personal hygiene issues through to the late stages. His advice, do not ignore or 'cover up' these symptoms, seek medical advice. It could be a nutritional deficiency or a drug reaction, if it is as early sign of Alzheimer's, there are medications and life skills tools to help delay the progression.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 26, 2023 6:00AM

30 minutes

Internist Dr Avidon Appel, who diagnoses and treats diseases & illnesses in adult patients, discussed men's general health. He notes they are less likely to seek help without spousal pressure, they shrug off any issues they may be experiencing and unfortunately, unlike their cars, they don't come with a 'check your engine list!' We discussed the increasing numbers of cancer and other diseases we think of as age-onset, and he reminds us that a symptom such as ED could be a sign of cardiovascular or endocrine disease. He worries about our plastic exposure and recommends glass and metal over single-use containers. He advises hydration, exercise and proper sleep as the best routine for maintaining health and tells us, if something doesn't feel right and it doesn't get better fast, see a doctor. He asks men – or their partners – to take time to write down questions and concerns before a doctor's visit – for a general 'check list' he also recommends visiting the CDC website.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 3, 2023 6:00AM

30 -minutes

Monica Vaccaro, Director of Programs, and Dr. Drew Nagele, Neuro-psychologist and research site investigator, discussed the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania. We talked about the types of brain injuries, from the common blow to the head that makes you see stars, traumatic injury from accidents, and now, the rising number of brain impairment from Opioids misuse. The Vision of the Brain Injury Association of Pennsylvania is a world in which all people with brain injuries and their supporters are leading fulfilling lives and are empowered to participate in their communities. They spoke of the Intersection of Brain Injury and Opioids Misuse; persons who have sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) are more likely to misuse substances because of their brain injury, while persons with opioid use disorder are more likely to sustain a brain injury as a result of their opioid use. In both cases the ability to seek and follow treatment is impaired; what might look like lack of motivation, poor performance in treatment, or a mental health disorder might be untreated brain injury. They spoke of the need for healthcare professionals to be more aggressive in screening for injury and to approach treatment geared to the impairment. We also spoke of the work Dr Nagele is monitoring - researching and screening persons incarcerated for brain injury, the numbers are greater than expected and impact the individual's success after release. For more information on BIA programming for caregivers, persons with brain injury and their advocacy work, go to [BIAPA.ORG](http://BIAPA.ORG) or call the Brain Injury Resource Line: 800-444-6443

Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 17, 2023 6:00AM

30-minutes

Koleen Cavanaugh, Senior Vice-President and Chief Marketing Officer for Independence Blue Cross discussed the importance of medical insurance and how to shop for affordable coverage for you and your family. She reminded us the window to

buy insurance through the Pennsylvania Health Insurance Exchange is January 7th for coverage beginning February 1st, miss that date and you cannot enroll again until next November, barring any important life changes such as marriage, divorce, a job change or adoption. We got started with a conversation about insurance and the ramifications of not having it, crippling medical debt follows many Americans. She described the different types of coverage available, including employer, individual, Medicare for older patients and Medicaid for those with chronic illness or disabilities. For the rest there is insurance through the Exchange or private providers. To but through the exchange she tells us to prepare with the names and personal information about yourself and family, income from all sources, where your preferred doctor practices and your prior medical history. Ask yourself if a higher or lower deductible makes more sense, risking higher out of pocket costs against lower monthly premiums. Check to see if there are discounts or any financial assistance available to you. She then discussed HMOs and PPOs, and Essential Health Benefits all providers must cover, including wellness visits, immunizations, screenings and mental health services. All plans are available through the online portal, the PA Health Exchange at pennie.com. and through Independence Blue Cross, at IBX.com.

### **Issue: Women/Minority**

Focus on the Delaware Valley

October 8, 2023 6:30AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

Robb Reichard, Ex Dir of AIDS Fund, and Fatima Sangare, Lead Medical Case manager for Bebash, Treatment to Hope, empowers Black and Brown people to enhance the quality of their health and overall well-being by providing access to culturally sensitive high- quality healthcare, HIV/AIDS services, health education, and social services. We discussed AIDS and HIV in Philadelphia, where again it disproportionately affects the disenfranchised, low income and Black and Brown communities. Robb explains stigma prevents information and education to get to those who need it, transmission prevention is possible through PREP and PEP 'Morning After' medications, and through AIDS treatments that bring the virus to undetectable. He notes that with the introduction of PREP and new treatment the transmissions among white gay men has dropped considerably.

Focus on the Delaware Valley

November 12, 2023 6:30AM

30 minutes

Ayanna Khan, Founder, President and CEO of The Delaware Black Chamber of Commerce returned to give us an update on the three year old chamber, which was honored as Best Chamber of the Year for 2023 for its impact and commitment to empowering Black businesses. Like other business chambers DEBCC offers a hub for connecting Black owners and entrepreneurs with education and training, grants and other funding sources, and entre to opportunities within the state and surrounding areas. She works to ensure that Black, minority and other disadvantaged entrepreneurs are not left behind due to lack of knowledge of processes or access to capital and

decision makers. The chamber offers help with staffing, insurance and healthcare issues these businesses face. She is proud that, thanks to their advocacy, the state now does demographic tracking on businesses, identifying Black, woman and minority ownership, making it easier to track both success and also deficiencies in opportunities. She discussed the benefits of belonging, beyond the business support, the Chamber offers social and other networking opportunities throughout the year creating a forum to share best practices, create partnerships and support new endeavors.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 10, 6:30AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

Jeffrey Abramowitz, JD, CEO of The Petey Greene Project, discussed their work in helping the incarcerated and formerly-incarcerated access a quality education through volunteer tutors. He discussed the inherent racial disparity of the justice system and their work with the public and their volunteers who they've learned, are inspired by making a difference and doing something about a system that funnels people, especially Black people, from failed schooling to prison. Jeff spoke of two initiatives, their HBCU Forward Initiative that looks to elevate Black college students as volunteer tutors and criminal justice advocates and their Justice Education Series, which educates volunteers and the public on the need and opportunity to effect systemic change in the criminal legal system.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 17, 2023 6:30AM

10 minutes of a 30-minute program

Paul Steinke, Executive Director of the Preservation Alliance of Greater Philadelphia described their work to preserve the ethnic communities of Philadelphia using two main historic designations: Local Historic, granted by the Historical commission by nomination application, that protects the exterior of the property from demolition or alterations, and the Federal National register of Historic Places and Districts, which only restricts modifications to a property that also receives Federal funding for operation or restoration or one that sits on Federal property. Reasons for designation can include architecture or unique engineering, age or a significant story about the properties use, such as Black Doctors Row in South Philly, the first neighborhood to be recognized based on Black history.

#### Focus on the Delaware Valley

December 31, 2023 6:30AM

30-minutes

Jean Sachs, Chief Executive Officer with Living Beyond Breast Cancer, begins a new monthly series on breast cancer and other chronic or life-threatening diseases. We discussed the programming at LBBC, from research and treatment information, peer matching, counseling, financial aid grants, and advocacy.