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## Bucks County Rainbow fund

R Perry Monastero, Ed.D., Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund (DVLf), announced the creation of a Bucks County-oriented extension of DVLf's services at an initial fundraiser on Saturday, September 20, 2008. Held at the home of John Behan and David Burdett, the evening event was attended by approximately 70 people from the area, interested to hear the details. Monastero commented on the large outpouring of residents whose involvement will be key to the success of the initiative by saying, "I'm thrilled that Bucks County allies and supporters of the lesbian and gay community are coming together to create an endowment, a permanent investment for the future. I feel honored to work with many gay, lesbian, and allied supporters as we build a permanent resource for Bucks County."

Hosts for the event, in addition to Behan and Burdett, were Kristy Krivitsky, Tom Moore, Gil Pereira, John Adler (whose restaurant, El Taco Loco provided the food), and Erika Jaeger-Smith.

Funds raised that evening will go directly to support the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund and the new endowment for the LGBT community in Bucks County and surrounding areas. Past Bucks County LGBT program and organizational grantees from the DVLf include the Bucks County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction and Planned Parenthood of Bucks County's Rainbow Room.

The Bucks County Rainbow Fund of the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund is being established in 2008 to provide a permanent, flexible and responsive means to support the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-gender and intersex (LGBTI) community in Bucks County and surrounding areas.

Even as we live in "gay-friendly" Bucks County, the needs of our community require active involvement, leadership, and investment by LGBTI people and heterosexual allies alike. While our community enjoys more support and inclusion than ever before, the LGBTI issues continue to demand unique and creative solutions and funding.

These can include homelessness among LGBTI teens, disparities in health-care, issues affecting LGBTI senior citizens or financial and estate planning issues intensified by the inequalities faced by LGBTI people under state and federal law, among others. And as these and other concerns of today are addressed, future generations will certainly face issues unique to the LGBTI community that will require the same creative solutions and funding. We can, and must, do something about that today.

#### The Bucks County Rainbow Fund

Administered by the Delaware Valley Legacy Fund, the Bucks County Rainbow Fund seeks to provide leadership and funding to improve the quality of life for the Bucks County LGBTI community through grantmaking and promoting philanthropy. Governed by a steering committee comprised of LGBTI people and heterosexual allies who live and work in Bucks County, the fund brings local expertise and local funding to meet local needs. The Bucks County Rainbow Fund will grow to be permanently endowed to ensure that it benefits the local LGBTI community in perpetuity.