

**For Release 10am
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Lehigh Valley Transgender Day of Remembrance

*Lehigh Valley Renaissance, Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley and the
Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center Cosponsor Solemn Event*

Bethlehem, PA — October 18, 2018 — Every year, hundreds of transgender women and men are subject to discrimination violence. Many lose their lives to these acts. The Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is a day to memorialize those who have been murdered as a result of transphobia and to draw attention to the continued violence endured by the trans community.

“This year, Lehigh Valley Transgender Renaissance, the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley (MCCLV) and the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center have teamed-up to cosponsor a ceremony to honor the victims of anti-trans violence.” Said Corinne Goodwin, one of the leaders of Renaissance, a support group for transgender and gender nonconforming people.

“Last year, twenty-eight transgender people – primarily trans women of color – lost their lives at the hands of others,” said Atticus Ranck of the Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center. “This year, trans murders are running at a similar pace but we know it is through efforts like this that we can educate the broader community about these issues and ultimately eliminate them.

“In addition to honoring those who have been lost to violence from others, we will also be remembering those who have lost their lives through suicide.” Said Shawn DeVault of

MCCLV. “Studies show that over 40% of all transgender people have attempted to take their own lives but we know that with proper support from families and the community, we can cut that number way down.

This year’s TDOR ceremony will be held at 7pm on Monday, November 19th at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley, 1401 Greenview Dr., Bethlehem, PA.

For inquiries please contact Corinne Goodwin at 703-861-8965 or Shawn DeVault at ShawnDeVault@mcclv.info