



## n e w s   r e l e a s e

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**Media Contact:**

Angela McGettigan, Director of Community Relations & Development

[Angela@NOVABucks.org](mailto:Angela@NOVABucks.org)

215.343.6543

### **Conwell-Egan High School Students Collect and Donate 85 Bags of Clothing for NOVA Thrift Store**

**(BUCKS COUNTY, Pa.)** Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) recently received a generous donation of 85 bags of clothing for the NOVA Thrift Shop from the students at Conwell-Egan Catholic High School in Fairless Hills.

The clothing drive was coordinated by students Courtney Anderson (Junior), Jacqueline Swope (Senior) and Jordan Zadnik (Junior), who are involved in the Danaher Lynch Family Foundation, an organization that supports education by investing in students and Catholic schools in the greater Philadelphia area. The students were asked by the organization to pick a service project that would help their local community and decided they wanted to work with NOVA to support its CAC (Children's Advocacy Center). NOVA's CAC provides a safe and child-friendly environment in which CAC staff, law enforcement, child welfare, prosecution, victim advocacy, medical and mental health professionals collaborate to implement effective, coordinated investigations of suspected child abuse.

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“We are extremely grateful to the students and faculty of Conwell Egan High School for their dedication to the clothing drive and their support of NOVA’s mission,” said Angela McGettigan, Director of Communications and Community Relations, NOVA. “Every sale generated at the NOVA Thrift Store directs much needed funds in support of NOVA’s counseling, advocacy, training and education programs.”

The clothing drive was held from May 17-21 and the students had the assistance of Anderson’s mentor, Pam Lynch, Director of Community Service at The Danaher Lynch Family Foundation and Tony Goodman, Director of Student Culture at Conwell Egan High School. The response to the clothing drive was so great that a truck and a mini-van were needed to deliver the bags to NOVA Thrift Shop. “We decided support NOVA because it is exactly what we were looking for - a nonprofit organization that helps [abuse] victims,” said Courtney Anderson. “We know that one clothing drive will not end all abuse, but if our donations can help one person, that is all that matters to us.”

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### **ABOUT NOVA**

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) supports, counsels and empowers victims of sexual assault and other serious crimes in Bucks County and works to prevent and eliminate violence in society through advocacy, training, community education and prevention programs. Founded in 1974, NOVA is a non-profit 501(c)(3), community-based organization operating out of three offices in Fairless Hills, Jamison and Perkasié. Services are made possible through the financial support of federal, state and local government grants and contracts, corporations, foundations and private donations. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law. For more information, visit [www.NOVABucks.org](http://www.NOVABucks.org).

**Editor’s note: Photos and captions courtesy of Courtney Anderson**

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**Volunteer Team with Bags of Clothing:** Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) recently received a generous donation of 85 bags of clothing for the NOVA Thrift Shop from the students at Conwell-Egan Catholic High School in Fairless Hills. Pictured (Left to right) clothing drive donations are the event's coordinators Jacqueline Swope, Jordan Zadnik and Courtney Anderson.



**Courtney Anderson with Truck:** The response to Conwell Egan High School's clothing drive on behalf of NOVA was so successful that it took a truck and a minivan to deliver all of the bags of clothes to the NOVA Thrift Shop. Pictured is Courtney Anderson, one of the clothing drive coordinators and a student at Conwell Egan High School.



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**Courtney and Jacqueline with Donations:** (Left to Right) Conwell Egan students and clothing drive coordinators Courtney Anderson and Jacqueline Swope are pictured with donations at NOVA Thrift Shop. The students chose NOVA's Thrift shop to benefit from the clothing drive because they wanted to support a nonprofit organization that helps [abuse] victims.

