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Navient raises \$12,000 during Ladders & Laces 5K Run/Walk and Jeans BeCause program to support Hanover Township Fire Department

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., April 04, 2016 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- They say if there's no pain, there's no gain. Though many participants with sore legs will likely be opting for elevators instead of the staircase on Monday, volunteers raised \$12,000 from the Navient Ladders & Laces 5K race yesterday and Navient's Jeans BeCause program. All proceeds will support the construction of a new firehouse for the Hanover Township Fire Department.

A photo accompanying this announcement is available at

<http://www.globenewswire.com/NewsRoom/AttachmentNg/cc29e975-d328-4d27-ae10-5f0294c49d92>

"When we were first informed that Navient wanted to support us in the building project, we couldn't express how much we appreciated the fact that they took the time to think of us," said Joe Temarantz, department chief, Hanover Township Fire Department. "We are a combination fire department which offers 24/7 coverage to the community, and with several of our current firehouses in a state of disrepair, this support from Navient and the community now gives the entire department a boost of confidence."

About 120 attendees braved the below-freezing temperatures, equipped with colorful headbands, gloves and headphones as they stretched their muscles in anticipation of the workout ahead. The Hanover Township Fire Department was on site with fire trucks to support the runners.

The 3.1-mile competition extended through Lasley Avenue, New Commerce Boulevard and Stewart Road, ending at Robinson Circle.

In addition to the 5K, employees raised funds to support the local firehouse through Navient's popular Jeans BeCause program. The program allows participating employees a "pass" to dress casually on certain days for volunteer donations.

"We are so grateful for the support of our community and for the wonderful turnout at yesterday's Ladders & Laces 5K," said Lisa Stashik, vice president, Navient. "This is our way of saying thank you to the Hanover Township Fire Department and all of the support they have given to our area over the years."

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