



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“Wings for All” at Lehigh Valley International Airport on May 5th

Air travel experience for people with autism and other intellectual and developmental disabilities

(Bethlehem, PA) - **March 19, 2018** - The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, in collaboration with the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA) and Allegiant Air, will host the **4th Annual “Wings for All®”** at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) on **Saturday, May 5 at 1:00 p.m.**

To register for the Wings for All® event, [click here](#) or visit:
<https://fs30.formsite.com/wingsforautism/form381/index.html>.

Wings for All®, one of The Arc’s national initiatives, is an airport rehearsal specially designed for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders and other Intellectual/Developmental disabilities, their families and aviation professionals.

“For families who thought they would never be able to travel by air, this event provides hope. The rehearsal takes place right in their own community and makes air travel a true possibility for them,” said Karen Shoemaker, Executive Director of The Arc.

The program provides families with the opportunity to practice entering the airport, obtaining boarding passes, going through security, and boarding a plane. Wings for All® also gives airport, airline, Transportation Security Administration professionals, and other personnel the opportunity to observe, interact, and deliver their services in a structured, learning environment.

“The Airport Authority is extremely proud of this event’s contributions to the many success stories of its participants. We are also continually inspired by the dedication demonstrated each year by LNAA staff & volunteers, The Arc, and the unwavering support from Allegiant,” said Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority Executive Director, Thomas Stoudt.

For more information about the Wings for All® event contact Joe Mancini at 610-849-8076, ext. 330 or jmancini@arcoflehighnorthampton.org.

About The ARC:

Celebrating more than 50 years, The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties touches the lives of more than 1,500 local individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families each year, providing the services and support they need to live full and productive lives. The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties is affiliated with The Arc of Pennsylvania, The Arc of the United States and local chapters of The Arc across Pennsylvania.

About LVIA:

Lehigh Valley International Airport is conveniently located near Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton, Pennsylvania. Allegiant Air, American, Delta and United have 11 nonstop destinations to both leisure destinations and major airline hubs with connections to the world. LVIA’s nonstop destinations include:

Atlanta, Charlotte, Chicago, Detroit, Fort Lauderdale, Myrtle Beach (seasonal), Newark, Orlando, Punta Gorda and Tampa Bay. For more information on LNAA, visit www.flylvia.com or www.facebook.com/flylvia