NEW PARTNERSHIP AIMS TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY HEALTH

We are thrilled to announce a fresh, new partnership with Carolinas HealthCare System, the official community health partner of the YMCA. Building on a strong relationship that goes back nearly 20 years, this new partnership will address the health disparities and social determinants that disproportionately affect many of its citizens and communities. “Our community’s health priorities are too vast for any one organization to tackle alone,” says Todd Tibbits, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Charlotte. “It has become critically important that we advance our partnership with Carolinas HealthCare System to meet today’s complex and pressing needs. By combining resources, innovative strategies, expertise and program delivery, we can truly move the needle on many preventable conditions.”

The YMCA/CHS partnership is evolving from placing nurses in YMCA facilities, to creating health solutions that ensure each community has programming that is specifically tailored to the community in which it will be implemented. This evolved partnership will address our community’s most critical health issues with a focus on five key areas: preventing and managing chronic disease, improving behavioral health, improving access to care, reducing violence and eliminating health disparities. The partnership will also include a jointly sponsored mobile unit to extend healthcare services to urban and rural communities where access is currently absent or difficult.

Read the Charlotte Observer’s coverage of the partnership here. We look forward partnering with CHS to reduce barriers and challenges that our neighbors face in their pursuit of better health!

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Thanks for Supporting #TeamJudy

FOR A BETTER US

The YMCA’s Annual Campaign kicks off on April 1! Our goal is to raise $5.8 million in 2017, which will allow us to serve more people who need us than ever before. Give today!

MISS AN ISSUE?

View past newsletters at ymcacharlotte.org/impact

ENJOY THIS NEWSLETTER?

Feel free to share with anyone who may find it useful!
CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Renaissance West Community Initiative (RWCI) has started construction on the Howard R. Levine Child Development Center. The facility is expected to be complete in October and will serve 152 children from infancy to five years old. RWCI was launched in response to a critical need to improve social mobility and break the cycle of poverty for residents living on West Boulevard. The CDC is a key component and is supported by research that high-quality early education is associated with positive lifelong outcomes for children.

Operated by the YMCA of Greater Charlotte, the center will help address potential achievement gaps and will provide working parents with high-quality child care, which will reduce stress for families. All lead teachers at the CDC will have bachelor’s degrees, and the center will use an evidence-based curriculum that focuses on healthy child development. Nikki Hildebrand, formerly the early and lower school director at Rivermont Collegiate in Bettendorf, Iowa, has been appointed executive director of the CDC. Hildebrand earned her master’s degree in early childhood education from Emory University and has more than 18 years of experience. Read the Charlotte Observer’s coverage here.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Volunteer recruitment has begun for the summer! You can help improve the academic success of kids reading below grade level by giving just six hours of your summer to volunteer with Y Readers. The program will serve 752 students this summer. To ensure that every Y Readers student has a reading buddy, we need over 350 volunteers who will be assigned to read with two students weekly.

Registration is easy – complete this online form and our Volunteer Coordinator will contact you with next steps. Thank you for considering volunteering your time to make a difference in students’ lives.

In an effort to recruit young professional volunteers, the Y is hosting a Young Professionals Social during National Volunteer. Any interested young professional is encouraged to learn more about volunteering with Y Readers and other ways you can give back through the Y. Visit our website for more information and to RSVP.

#TEAMJUDY UPDATE

Last month we told you about YMCA Board Member and local banker Judy Wishnek who was hitting the dance floor to support Y Readers in the Charlotte Ballet’s Dancing with the Stars of Charlotte Gala. Your votes helped Judy raise over $22,000 to support YReaders! Because of Judy’s hard work and your generosity, Y Readers will be able to serve an additional 16 students this summer.

STORIES OF IMPACT is a monthly newsletter about the Y’s philanthropic initiatives that yield measurable outcomes; it highlights the life changing work we do and those who make it possible.

With so many inspiring stories to tell, it’s impossible to include them all. Click on the icons below to see how together, we’re addressing critical needs to make our community a better place for all.