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YMCA COMMUNITY SUPPORT CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF FEB. 7

YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga sets 2019 goal of raising \$805,000 for community efforts.

CHATTANOOGA, TN – The YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga will kick off its annual Community Support Campaign today at 6 p.m. at the Hamilton Family YMCA. Last year, nearly 200 people attended the kickoff and learned about the many ways the YMCA helps individuals, families and communities through programs supported by its annual campaign.

“The Y offers a place of healthy community that is not available in many places in our society,” said Rev. Janice Keebler, YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga Chaplain.

The Annual Campaign, which runs for the next 5 weeks, is the YMCA’s yearly fundraising initiative that helps to support programs like financial assistance, healthy living programs, the Y’s free community-wide Safety Around Water program, food programs, youth development programs and much more.

“Seeing programs that have so much impact – I’ll do whatever it takes to make that successful,” said Rodney Thompson, North Georgia Community YMCA’s Board Chair.

Last year, the YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga contributed a total of \$1.1 million back to the community. In 2019, the Y is on track to prepare and deliver its one millionth meal, in addition to exceeding its financial contribution to the community.

“It is part of the Y mission that we never turn away someone for inability to pay,” said Tripp McCallie, YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga Chief Development Officer. “Not only do we not turn away individuals, but we also continually seek to offer programs that address community needs. To that end, funds raised annually through this campaign help us continue to meet needs and be a positive community leader.”

To date, the Y is nearly 75 percent of its goal with approximately \$608,000 raised.

To learn more about the YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga’s Community Support Campaign, visit www.ymcachattanooga.org/support-y/donate or email tmccallie@ymcachttanooga.org. All funds raised stay in our community.

About the Y

The YMCA of Metropolitan Chattanooga is 147 years old and today serves more than 60,000

members—strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Its programs reach 120 area locations and serve 12 counties throughout Southeast TN and North GA. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 22 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background, nurturing the potential of children and teens, improving the nation’s health and well-being, and providing opportunities to give back and support the community. The Y has long-standing relationships and its physical presence is not just to promise, but to deliver lasting personal and social change. ymca.net

<http://www.ymcachattanooga.org>