

For Immediate Release  
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## **Campbell County YMCA Receives \$5000 Grant**

March 16, 2009 -- The Campbell County YMCA recently received a \$5000 grant made possible by Narley L. Haley and Fifth Third Bank, co-trustees of the Frank J. and Jacqueline D. Kloenne Foundation. The funds will help provide much needed financial assistance to people who could not otherwise afford YMCA membership and programs.

"This generous grant is a fantastic boost to our campaign. More people than ever are seeking financial assistance, so our staff and volunteers are working twice as hard to reach the \$60,000 fundraising goal for scholarships," commented Shane Ruffin, executive director.

People like Ray Tharp are helping everyday by making phone calls while caring for his mother who is in poor health. Tharp joined the Campbell County YMCA in 2001 and was taking 26 medications and weighed 487 lbs. Today, he is off all medications, lost 312 pounds and credits the Y for saving his life. "I couldn't have turned my life around if it hadn't been for the help and support of the YMCA. Everyone deserves the same opportunities," shared Tharp.

Formerly known as the 'Strong Kids' Campaign, this year it is the 'EveryONE Deserves a Y' Campaign because funds benefit youth, families and seniors. Last year, 20% of the more than 1,500 kids who learned sportsmanship and respect in Campbell County YMCA programs received financial assistance. More than 10% of the 874 families who led healthier lifestyles with YMCA membership benefited, too. And 80% of the nearly 500 seniors who had a place to go where they could make friends and be active participated thanks to the YMCA's scholarship assistance.

The Campbell County YMCA, and all of the branches of the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, are raising money through the 'EveryONE Deserves a Y' Campaign to ensure no one will ever be turned away from the YMCA. For more information, the public can contact the Campbell County YMCA at 859-781-1814.

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