

For Immediate Release
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Dearborn County YMCA Going Back To Its Roots Providing Community-Based Programs and Services

Sunday, January 27, 2008 -- The Dearborn County YMCA, a branch of the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati, is getting back to its roots. Established in 1997 as a YMCA branch "without walls," offering members a variety of programs and services through community partners, the Dearborn County YMCA will be shifting its operations back to its original site structure this spring.

"This is one of those decisions that is never easy to make because it changes our members' routine. In the three years that we've been in the Green Boulevard building, we know it has become habit for many people to go to there, and now we are asking them to go to YMCA programs at different locations in Aurora, but the growing expense of maintaining this building may threaten the quality of those very programs that have become an important part of people's lives," said Laura Kumler, executive director of the Dearborn County YMCA. "Our first priority to our YMCA participants has always been providing quality programs and services that help them achieve their God given potential in spirit, mind, and body. The cost of maintaining a building has just become too great and so we'd rather our resources be spent assuring our programs maintain that same quality."

While doors will close to the YMCA Green Boulevard building in Aurora on March 15, its 740 members will be able to continue many of their programs and services uninterrupted through partnering organizations. These include - group exercise; active older adult group exercise (including Silver Sneakers classes); before and afterschool programs; school age day camp; youth sports, health and wellness programs; and active older adult trips. An updated schedule of times and locations will be posted on the YMCA Web site beginning March 1 (www.myy.org/Dearborn <<http://www.myy.org/Dearborn>>). Members will also be able to enjoy the facilities of other YMCA of Greater Cincinnati branches at no extra charge. The YMCA is also working on transitioning its cardiac rehabilitation program to another facility. The Dearborn County YMCA will no longer be operating the Harrison Pool.

"This restructuring is going to help us to be more accessible to more people in the Dearborn County community. Still, we recognize that any transition is going to be an adjustment and we hope to make it as smooth as possible for our members," added Kumler.

The YMCA of Greater Cincinnati is the area's largest non-governmental, not-for-profit community services organization providing safe and nurturing environments for people of all

ages, regardless of their ability to pay. More than 43,000 kids, 52,000 families, and 14,000 teens are served each year in a broad range of programs, including mentoring, youth leadership, and volunteerism through community outreach initiatives that promote the character values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. The YMCA of Greater Cincinnati is also the Tri-state's largest provider of childcare, serving people of all faiths, races, ages and incomes.

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