



We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges Awards over One Million Dollars in Financial Assistance

Livingston, NJ, December 17, 2009 – The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges announced this week that over \$1,000,000 in direct financial assistance was awarded to children and families in 2009. This is the first time that the YMCA has awarded over \$1,000,000 in financial assistance in its 124 year history.

This number represents a 45% increase over the \$709,000 in direct financial assistance that was awarded by the YMCA in 2008. The 2009 financial assistance was provided to over 3,800 deserving children and families throughout New Jersey. The majority of the aid was awarded to children in the YMCA's childcare, after school and summer camp programs.

Throughout its history the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges has proven that when times are the toughest they always rise to the occasion to meet community challenges. The YMCA continues to be a beacon of hope through programs and timeless values that bolster the children, families and communities they serve.

"The Financial Assistance we provide not only supports the children we serve, but it also helps their mothers and fathers to maintain their jobs or aids them in looking for new ones if they should fall upon hard times," said Richard K. Gorab, President and CEO of the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges. "In 2009, our YMCA was blessed to have the support of over 2,200 donors, who generously donated to our Strong Kids Campaign. These donors are the backbone of our YMCA's ability to maintain our pledge that no one will be turned away from a YMCA program solely because of an inability to pay," added Mr. Gorab.

The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges is the local charity of choice that helps to change lives in changing times. For more information about the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges or their Strong Kids Campaign please call 973-758-9622 or visit www.metroymcas.org.

The Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges is the largest YMCA in the state of New Jersey, serving over 146,000 members and program participants annually. Its mission is to enrich the lives of the children, families and communities it serves, through programs that build spirit, mind and body, welcoming all people, in an environment nurturing positive values. Its five branch facilities, located in East Orange, Livingston, Maplewood, Hardyston and Stillwater, provide a wide variety of services and activities:

- Quality all-day and after-school childcare, pre-school classes, recreational and enrichment programs e.g. swimming and other sports, arts, computer activities and day and sleep-away camps.
- Programs for adolescents and teens that include sports, parties and club activities.
- Programs for adults and seniors.

Press Only: For more information about the Metropolitan YMCA of the Oranges or to speak with their President and CEO Richard K. Gorab, please contact Peter Louzek at (973) 410-0500 or p.louzek@bergerbrown.com.
