



building the future together

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COMMUNITY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GETS BOOST

YMCA and Boys & Girls Club of Fond du Lac Receive Major Challenge Grant

Fond du Lac, WI – The Fond du Lac Family YMCA and Boys & Girls Club of Fond du Lac received a special gift for the holiday when an anticipated grant of \$700,000 was confirmed and increased to \$1,200,000.

The grant from the Kresge Foundation of Troy, Michigan is a challenge grant – encouraging the local community to participate in the fundraising effort. “The grant is reliant on community support of this capital campaign,” according to Shelly Stayer, co-chair of the CommUNITY campaign. “Right now we have raised close to \$8.75 million toward our \$12.5 million goal. We need to raise an additional \$2.5 million before the Kresge challenge grant is awarded,” added Adam Stone, campaign co-chair.

Fond du Lac Family YMCA CEO, Greg Giles, is optimistic about meeting the challenge. “It’s not that \$2.5 million isn’t a big number, but when we look at how far we’ve come with the silent phase of our fundraising, and the \$150,000 raised in a brief period during the community phase I can’t help but believe this community will do what’s necessary to make this challenge grant happen,” insists Giles.

Stan Kocos, a career veteran of various fundraising efforts pointed out the real significance of the Kresge challenge grant. “First, it’s exciting that we were one of the last groups invited to make a personal presentation to the Kresge grant committee. The amount they’re willing to give our campaign is reflective of what they see as a groundbreaking effort between our two organizations,” stated Kocos, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Fond du Lac. “Kresge sees the value that this facility will provide to the community, and they’re basically asking individuals in our community to see that value, too.”

The new center will enable the YMCA to provide efficient and safe fitness facilities for an even greater number of Fond du Lac citizens. It will also provide the Boys & Girls Club of Fond du Lac with comprehensive central facilities where their members can learn leadership and interact positively with a broader community, while still receiving the after school education support they and their families have come to rely on.

“We applaud your efforts to build paths of opportunity within the Fond du Lac community,” says Rip Rapson, president of the Kresge Foundation. “Ensuring the health and vitality of non-profit organizations such as yours is central to building strong, vibrant communities. We are proud to help advance your very important work.”

The target for groundbreaking on the project is Spring 2008. Anyone can contribute to the campaign by calling the YMCA at 921-3330 or the Boys & Girls Club at 924-0530. Secure pledges and donations can also be made online at www.fdlcommunitycampaign.org.

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The Kresge Foundation is a private foundation that supports communities by building the capacity of nonprofit organizations in the six fields of health, the environment, arts and culture, education, human services and community development. Sebastian S. Kresge established the foundation; it is not associated with any corporation or organization.