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**YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI TO BREAK GROUND  
ON SOUTH DADE YMCA FAMILY CENTER EXPANSION**

*New Community Center Will More than Double the Y's Impact  
By Serving More than 30,000 people in the South Dade Community*

**MIAMI (April 15, 2011)-** This spring the YMCA of Greater Miami will begin construction on the expansion of the South Dade YMCA Family Center. The groundbreaking ceremony will take place on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at the South Dade Y Family Center, 9355 SW 134 Street in Miami, FL. The community is invited to attend and partake in the celebration of what will be the flagship family center for the YMCA of Greater Miami.

“Commencing construction on our new family center is a huge milestone for the Y as we continue on our goal to impact as many people as possible in the communities we serve. This expansion alone will allow the Y to serve more than 30,000 people in the South Dade area,” said Alfred Sanchez, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Miami. “With four family centers in Miami-Dade, and more to come, the Y is working to ensure that every person has affordable access to essential health and social programs.”

After conducting a study to determine the types of services and programs area residents desired, the Y designed a center with the residents' specific needs in mind. Working with architecture firm Borrelli + Partners and construction company Gerrits Construction, the Y will convert the current facility into a modern 36,000 square-foot center. The expanded facility will provide a new gathering place where all community members will enjoy an array of programming focusing on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

The Y bought the facility in 2002, and since then has renovated it multiple times to address the needs of the community. The current expansion will add an indoor gymnasium for all weather play and for space for camp and community groups; an extensive wellness center with cardiovascular equipment, resistance training equipment and free-weights; two exercise studios for group fitness classes; an outdoor sports court; an activity center; locker rooms that include a family change area; a kids adventure center with a play yard; and a supervised child watch center. An outdoor swimming pool offering a wide range of aquatic activity is also in the works.

While the new facility is under construction, Y members can still enjoy a full-range of activities for kids and adults including group fitness classes like Yoga, Pilates, Boot Camp, Step, Silver Sneakers®, and Spinning® taught by the Y's professional, certified instructors. Youth programs like summer camp, soccer, flag football and basketball will be hosted at nearby locations while the current facility is under construction.

For more information about the South Dade YMCA Family Center, please call 305-254-0310 or visit [www.ymcamiami.org](http://www.ymcamiami.org).

**About YMCA of Greater Miami**

With family centers throughout Miami-Dade and upper Monroe County, the YMCA of Greater of Miami is one of South Florida's leading non-profit organizations. The Y engages the South Florida community to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Focusing on strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y offers services such as youth sports, aquatics, after-school, preschool and child care, summer camp, health and fitness programs, and membership. For more information about the YMCA of Greater Miami, call toll free 1-877-WOW-YMCA or visit [www.ymcamiami.org](http://www.ymcamiami.org).

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