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**COMMUNITY SUPPORT SECURES UNANIMOUS APPROVAL FOR EXPANSION PLANS AT
YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI'S SOUTH DADE FAMILY BRANCH**

Transformations to the local YMCA branch will provide community with an outdoor swimming pool, indoor gymnasium and wellness center all with a variety of programming choices

South Dade residents MIAMI (October 7, 2009)- With South Dade area residents rallying for a new community center, the YMCA of Greater Miami received unanimous approval yesterday from the Community Zoning Appeals Board #12 to move forward with the proposed expansion plans to the South Dade Family Branch. The changes to the facility will provide the community with a new gathering place where children and adults alike will be able to enjoy an array of programming options.

“The YMCA is thankful for the South Dade community’s support throughout this long process. We look forward to breaking ground and presenting the community with the family center they have asked for – a real nucleus for social and physical activity for everyone in the family,” said Alfred Sanchez, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Miami. “The YMCA is committed to building strong kids, strong families and strong communities. The approval of the South Dade Family Branch expansion is a positive step toward better serving the needs of all people in our community.”

Residents of the South Dade area will be able to enjoy an outdoor swimming pool with splash pad offering a wide range of aquatic activity; an indoor gymnasium for all weather play 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 like yoga and pilates; 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.

“This facility has seen plenty of change since the YMCA bought it in 2002, and we’ll continue making changes over time to address the needs of the local community,” added Sanchez. “The YMCA will work with the Kendall Community Council to ensure that the renovation process moves as smoothly as possible, and we look forward to opening the expanded YMCA family branch.”

This fall the South Dade YMCA offers a full-range of sports and group classes for kids and adults. The community can partake in the more than 50 fitness classes taught by the YMCA’s professional, certified instructors and can select from workouts like Yoga, Pilates, Boot Camp, Step, Silver Sneakers®, Spinning and Reformer Pilates to youth programs like YMCA Strong Kids Bootcamp, YMCA dance team, soccer, basketball and the Safe Start® survival swim.

“I’m excited for the positive change that the transformation of the South Dade YMCA will offer to our community, and I look forward to all the new programs that my family will be able to enjoy,” said Alfonso Leon, a member of the South Dade YMCA Family Branch.

About YMCA of Greater Miami

Founded in 1916, the YMCA of Greater of Miami is one of South Florida’s oldest and largest not-for-profit organizations. With branches throughout Miami-Dade and upper Monroe County, the Y is committed to building strong kids, strong families and strong communities. Its scope of services includes youth sports, aquatics, after-school, preschool and child care, summer camp, teen clubs, 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.

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