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**YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI RECEIVES \$20K GRANT FROM STATE FARM**

*Funds will support The Y Partnership for Literacy- Afterschool Program Enhancements*

**MIAMI, FL (September 7, 2011)** - The YMCA of Greater Miami received a \$20,000 grant from State Farm this year to support The Y Partnership for Literacy - Afterschool Program Enhancements for the 2011-2012 school year. This program will provide afterschool services to youth at two Miami-Dade County Public School sites- Morningside Elementary located at 6620 NE 5th Avenue, Miami 33138 and Jesse Jay McCrary Elementary located at 514 N.W. 77TH St. Miami, 33150 serving school aged children in grades K-5.

“With this grant, more kids in Miami-Dade will be impacted by the Y’s afterschool services,” said Alfred Sanchez, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Miami. “The Y focuses on youth development and through partners like State Farm, we are able to provide learning programs that help develop local talent.”

The Y’s programs are based on best practice models that focus on the development of the individual child through literacy, math and science activities, health and nutrition education, physical fitness, homework assistance, character development, expressive arts and experiential learning for youth in high need areas of Miami-Dade. The intended outcomes of the project are to improve student academic skills, improve physical fitness and health & wellness, increase positive student behaviors, and increase parental involvement and satisfaction.

“State Farm is a strong supporter of education excellence in our communities,” says Barbara Carr, Vice President of Agency for State Farm Insurance. “Our grant to the YMCA of Greater Miami will fund reading technology software and materials to help motivate hundreds of elementary school students to improve their reading and comprehension skills.”

For more information on YMCA of Greater Miami and its afterschool programs, please visit [www.ymcamiami.org](http://www.ymcamiami.org) or call 305-357-6622.

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**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 not-for-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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