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**The YMCA of Greater Miami Celebrates the
100th Anniversary of Father's Day**

MIAMI, FL (May 30, 2010) – First celebrated in June 1910 at the Spokane YMCA in Washington, Father's Day is now recognized all over the world. This year, the YMCA of Greater Miami will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Father's Day by hosting a barbeque at the Homestead YMCA Family Branch pool located at 1034 NE 8 Street Homestead, FL 33030. The celebration is open to the public at \$2 per family and will take place on June 20th from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

"We are proud to join in this historic celebration honoring fathers," said Alfred Sanchez, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Miami. "Dads, and moms, play a paramount role in children's lives, and the Y is committed to helping foster those relationships."

Father's Day was founded by Sonora Louis Smart Dodd, the daughter of a single father who served in the Civil War. On Mother's Day in 1909 Smart Dodd heard a sermon honoring mothers and wondered why there was no similar tribute for fathers. With the support of ministers in Spokane, Smart Dodd launched the first Father's Day celebration at the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. President Nixon signed Father's Day into law in 1972.

Today, the YMCA remains committed to strengthening families by offering programs that foster understanding and companionship between children and their dads such as camping, swimming, sports, service-learning projects and arts and crafts.

For more information about the YMCA of Greater Miami's family programming, visit www.ymcamiami.org or call 305-357-4000.

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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