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Contact:

Lalita Llerena
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA
813.224.9622 ext. 1240
813.545.7772 (cell)
Lalita.Llerena@tampaymca.org

Donor Pledges \$5 Million to The Family Y at Big Bend Road

Tampa, FL (June 25, 2015) – The Family Y at Big Bend Road is closer to becoming a reality thanks to a community philanthropist and long-time friend of the [Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) who has pledged \$5 million toward the family facility on 9650 Old Big Bend Road in Gibsonton.

“We are extremely grateful to this cherished Y donor for the continued support throughout the years,” says Tampa Y President & CEO Tom Looby. “The donor wanted to invest in a cause dedicated to building character and confidence in our children, enabling families to spend quality time together, and providing a supportive environment where everyone - regardless of age, income or background - can come together to improve their quality of life. Thanks to this most recent gift, we are closer to building a safe place that offers much-needed services to an underserved part of Hillsborough County. We’re still looking for additional donors to help complete the facility.”

[YMCA Summer Camp](#) is currently underway at The Family Y at Big Bend Road site as phase one of the project nears completion. Phase one includes five multi-purpose athletic fields, a covered basketball court, playground and picnic pavilion. The Tampa Y still has \$3 million to raise in donations to cover the total \$10 million cost for construction of future phases, which consist of an aquatics center and a 30,000-square-foot family facility. With additional capital fundraising success, the new Y could be under construction in late 2016 or early 2017. The Family Y at Big Bend Road will strengthen the Southern Hillsborough County community by:

- Promoting economic development by providing over 125 jobs.
- Reducing drowning cases.
- Improving high school graduation rates.
- Improving healthy living habits by reducing obesity epidemic in adults and children.
- Giving seniors a sense of home where they can exercise, socialize and celebrate health.
- Strengthening and supporting cancer survivors and their families.
- Nurturing the potential of every child and teen.
- Improving the quality of life for residents.
- Teaching children life skills through summer and sports camps.
- Creating a community hub, bringing together diverse groups of people for a common good.

To learn more about the capital campaign, contact Chief Development Officer Jan Berry at 813.224.9622 ext. 1268 or jan.berry@tampaymca.org. To learn more about summer camp and fall sports programs at the Family Y at Big Bend Road, contact Senior Program Director Dan Ribas at 813.436.5890 or dan.ribas@tampaymca.org. Media members should contact Communications Director Lalita Llerena at lalita.llerena@tampaymca.org or 813.545.7772.

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About the Tampa Y

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is one of the area's leading nonprofits, strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 19 facilities engage more than 160,000 men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve our community's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The Tampa Y has long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. www.tampaymca.org