



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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You Make More Possible: Annual Campaign Boosts Stevens Point Area YMCA's Mission to Support Community Well-Being

The Stevens Point Area YMCA is excited to announce that Governor Tony Evers, in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), has awarded a \$4.25 million grant to support the construction of a new YMCA facility in Waushara County. The funding comes from the Flexible Facilities Program (FFP), a part of the American Rescue Plan Act and administered by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The new YMCA, set to serve over 3,200 individuals, including low-income families, elderly residents, racial and ethnic minorities, and underserved youth, will be a hub for the community. It will feature a state-of-the-art wellness center, a community lounge, and five classrooms equipped with 25 laptops to enhance digital connectivity. These classrooms will provide critical access to remote learning, work opportunities, and healthcare monitoring, addressing key community needs that were exacerbated by the pandemic.

Governor Evers' support highlights his commitment to expanding digital connectivity and improving public facilities across Wisconsin. The \$115 million in grants recently announced by Governor Evers will fund numerous projects designed to increase broadband access in disadvantaged communities, including libraries, community centers, and multi-purpose facilities like the new YMCA.

"We are incredibly grateful for Governor Evers' leadership and for this significant investment in our community," said Ryan Zietlow, CEO and President, Stevens Point Area YMCA. "This new YMCA facility will not only provide a much-needed physical space for wellness and community gatherings but will also offer vital digital resources that will empower our residents and bridge the gap in access to technology."

The Flexible Facilities Program aims to fund projects that improve digital access, especially for populations most impacted by the pandemic. This investment will ensure the Waushara County YMCA is a space where everyone can benefit from enhanced connectivity, fostering greater inclusion and opportunity for all.

For more information about the YMCA's expansion or to support the project, please contact Ryan Zietlow at rzietlow@spymca.org

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About the Stevens Point Area YMCA

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Currently serving Portage County (for more than 55 years), and expanding to support the greater Waushara County area. The Stevens Point Area YMCA has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. www.spymca.org