

Summer Highlights 2009
YMCA of Greater Boston
John M. Ferrell, President

You would be surprised to know:

Weekly summer day camp enrollment in 53 YMCA camp programs reached 113% of our goal for the season with 24,700 camper weeks.

Our Lake Winnepesaukee resident camps—North Woods (boys), Pleasant Valley (girls), and Sandy Island (families)—included 1,892 campers and 1,569 family members. North Woods celebrated its 80th anniversary and Pleasant Valley its 40th. The first Sandy Island camp season was in 1899.

Participation in our Get Summer teen extended hours programs in 8 city YMCAs increased to 1,523 teens and total teen program attendance of 16,238.

Approximately 2,300 low income children in 16 locations throughout the city were served a total of 118,441 free meals, funded by \$228,000 in grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, all managed by the East Boston YMCA.

A total of 645 teens were employed to work in YMCA programs, including 338 teens on the YMCA payroll (wages for 28 of these teens were funded by a \$100,000 federal stimulus grant from the city of Boston). An additional 307 teens were assigned to the YMCA and paid by other public and private agencies.

Our Huntington Avenue Y Summer Hostel hosted 881 guests from 42 countries. The top three visiting countries in order were Germany, France, and China.

1,400 families received financial support through the Y's Membership for All Program, based on family income and ability to pay.

The number of Y members is up through August to 65,694 (compared to 64,292 in August of '08) membership terminations are down, and facility usage was 9% higher in July compared to last year.

A new reciprocal membership agreement, "My Y is Every Y" with all YMCAs in Massachusetts and Rhode Island was launched.

Our Education and Training Program received a Federal stimulus funded \$92,500 grant from Mayor Tom Menino's office for a Healthcare Careers Pathways Program for 18 low income, unemployed immigrant citizens who need intensive English and job skills. Program partners include the Fenway Community Development Corporation and the American Red Cross.

Other new program initiatives included a diabetes exercise pilot program in Roxbury, recognition as a Global Center of Excellence by the YMCA of the USA, and collaboration with Project Bread in Woburn to serve 250 lunches per day in several Y program locations.

Financial operations were on target through August in spite of revenue growth of only 1% year to date.

There were personal capital campaign commitments to date from 23 General Board members of \$1.7 million, including one pledge of \$500,000, plus a \$500,000 contribution to the Hyde Park YMCA renovation and expansion from an anonymous foundation.

We began construction of the \$8.1 million renovation and expansion of the Hyde Park YMCA, after relocating the day camp, teen activities, and the after school programs for the 8 – 12 month project.

We quickly completed the interior renovation of the leased to buy Guild Building for the Blind adjacent to the West Roxbury YMCA for expansion of Y programs, including the relocation of the Kids Stop Day Care program to this site. **We also completed much needed capital improvements** for West Roxbury parking and Huntington Avenue windows, elevator upgrades, and boilers.

The new YMCA of Greater Boston web site made its debut, including our new branding design, easier navigation, and more readily accessible information. The initial marketing experimentation with social networking web sites included Face Book and Twitter.

Summer resident camp counselor training was expanded to include additional child abuse prevention, anti-bullying, and diversity training.

There were two successful lifeguard saves of adult near-drownings at Sandy Island Camp on Lake Winnepesaukee and the West Roxbury YMCA. Both swimmers are doing fine.

Now you know. Please tell your friends. . .