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PA SENATE COMMENDS PA YMCAs RECOGNIZES MAY AS YMCA APPRECIATION MONTH

Marcia Drozdowski, Executive Director of the Carlisle Family YMCA, is proud to announce that the Senate of Pennsylvania unanimously adopted a resolution recognizing May 2009 as "YMCA Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania. S.R. 103, sponsored by Senator Andrew Dinniman (D-Chester) and co-sponsored by 25 additional members commends "the volunteers and staff of the YMCA for their service to the people of this Commonwealth and their communities."

In his remarks on the Senate floor, Senator Dinniman stated that "there are 164 YMCAs in the Commonwealth that provide tremendous service to our local communities, so it is a pleasure to introduce this resolution."

The resolution highlighted the impact of the 164 Pennsylvania YMCAs serving rural, urban and suburban communities across the state which are volunteer-founded, volunteer-based and volunteer-led. More than 25,000 volunteers serve as coaches, instructors, mentors, instructors and another 3,500 serve as board members.

PA Ys serve more than 1,000,000 people of all ages races, genders, creeds, religions, backgrounds and economic levels. 42% of members and program participants are under 18 years of age and nearly 15% are over 55. Marcia Drozdowski reports the Carlisle Family YMCA serves 5463 of which 30% are under eighteen and 17% are over fifty-five.

PA YMCAs raise over \$50,000,000 for scholarships, subsidies and other community services each year, providing access to everyone regardless of their ability to pay so that all have the opportunity to be part of the Y family and benefit from a wide variety of programs and services. Locally the Carlisle Family YMCA raised \$252,474 which enabled 1,118 youth, families, and adults to benefit and participate in YMCA memberships, programs and services. The contributions also helped to subsidize and support various YMCA programs and services.

YMCAs are collectively the largest provider of child care services with 128 Ys serving in excess of 19,000 children each day. During the summer services are provided to nearly 45,000 children in 130 YMCA day camps and nine resident camps. Marcia Drozdowski said that the Carlisle Family YMCA is proud to partner with parents and provide year round child care services serving 37 children. Marcia said the Carlisle Family YMCA conducts a Youth Adventure Day Camp (ages 5-8), New Frontiers Day Camp (ages 9-14), Camp Thompson Resident Camp (ages 7-14), Teen Expedition Resident Camps (ages 12-15), and Active For Life Fitness Camp (ages 7-14) over the Summer serving over 450 children.

Marcia Drozdowski said the Carlisle Family YMCA, a member of the PA State Alliance of YMCAs, expresses appreciation to the members of the Senate for recognizing the good work of the YMCA!