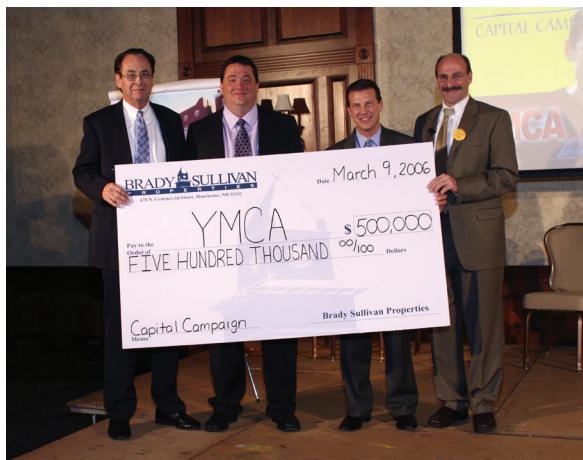


Greater Manchester Family YMCA Kicks Off \$2.9 million Capital Campaign

\$500,000 Donation from Brady Sullivan is Lead Gift



L-R: David Brady, Shane Brady & Arthur Sullivan present a \$500,000 check to YMCA President, Hal Jordan.

Manchester, NH- The Greater Manchester Family YMCA launched its \$2.9 million Step Up for Kids Capital Campaign on Thursday, March 9th with a spirited event for volunteers, community leaders, and donors at the Puritan BackRoom Conference Center. Over 100 people attended the event sponsored by the Puritan and the accounting firm of Baker, Newman & Noyes.

The Greater Manchester Family YMCA is embarking on a comprehensive facilities renovation and addition plan to accommodate increasing membership and programs for youth. By renovating and upgrading existing sites, constructing new facilities, and expanding current programs, the YMCA will greatly enhance its services that promote the health and well-being of children, teens, and families in the community. These new program areas will allow the YMCA to serve an additional 2,500 children per year and expand the number of family members from 8,000 to 10,000. The YMCA campaign goals include partnering with over 50 community organizations to build a stronger community.

Brady Sullivan Properties has provided the lead gift to the campaign with a donation of \$500,000, supporting the new Youth and Family Wellness Center at the Downtown Manchester YMCA. "By participating in this campaign, we intend to play a very important role in giving more children access to the lifelong benefits that come from being part of the YMCA. The lessons they learn as a member of the YMCA last a lifetime and benefit the community as a whole. Brady Sullivan is proud to support this exciting project, and we hope our gift will encourage others to support the YMCA's campaign," said Arthur Sullivan. Other major donors include: Citizens Bank, Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield, the Bean Foundation, Manchester Charitable Trust, Hunt Foundation, McIninch Foundation, Cogswell Benevolent Trust, and several large gifts from personal donors. The YMCA reported that it has raised \$2 million to date, bringing the campaign to 70% of its goal.

"Our main goal for this campaign is to provide greater opportunities for youth and families to participate in YMCA programs," said Hal Jordan, the organization's president. "We currently provide \$776,000 in financial assistance to over 7,500 people annually, and we'd like to increase that to 10,000 people."

Downtown renovation highlights include a 6000 square foot Youth and Family Wellness Center, which will provide state of the art fitness equipment and quality instruction. Renovation highlights include: over \$100,000 in new Nautilus and free weight equipment, new cardio equipment, new TVs and Cardio Theater, improved lighting, acoustics and HVAC, and renovated locker rooms. Also, a larger Kidz Gym and Childwatch Center, an expanded Teen Center, a new fitness studio for Pilates and Yoga, an open concept welcome lobby, and renovations to the gymnasium are included in the plans.

A new Center for Lifetime Wellness will be added to improve the health of the 'yet to be fit' population. Over 350 overweight children and their family members will learn how to achieve healthier lifestyles in the Fit & Healthy, KID STYLE! program at the YMCA's new Center for Lifetime Wellness. This exercise and weight loss program is a collaboration of health professionals from the YMCA, Catholic Medical Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Manchester and Elliot Hospital. Additionally, hundreds of adults will benefit from behavioral counseling, nutrition education, and individualized exercise programs.

Goffstown Allard Center projects include a new Center for Gymnastics and Dance. The largest project at the Allard Center YMCA, the Center will provide for over 1,000 additional children to participate in gymnastics and dance programs. The new facility will feature an expanded built-in vaulting pit, a tumbling track, additional equipment for training, and a special area focused on boys' gymnastic events. Other improvements include a new youth and family wellness center and full sized basketball court.



Rendition of the new Brady Sullivan Youth and Family Center on Mechanic Street in Manchester.

For further information or to make a donation to the Capital Campaign, contact: Leslee Stewart at the YMCA at 623-3558.