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Northeast Family YMCA Joins President in Call to National Service

(Amherst, NY) –The Northeast Family YMCA is joining YMCAs across the country in taking part in *United We Serve*, the national effort launched by President Obama to promote service as a way of life for Americans.

United We Serve runs through Sept. 11, which will be marked for the first time as a national day of service and remembrance. The initiative will ultimately grow into a sustained, collaborative and focused effort to promote service as a way of life for all Americans. *United We Serve* is run by the Corporation for National and Community Service and focuses on four key areas: education, health, energy and the environment, and community renewal.

“The YMCA has a long and rich heritage as a service organization,” said Jody Hares, program director for the Northeast Family Branch. “By participating in *United We Serve*, we hope to inspire more individuals in our community to make an ongoing commitment to volunteering throughout the year.”

Over the summer and throughout the year the Northeast Family YMCA will engage members and the community in service projects and volunteer opportunities to answer the national call to service.

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Opportunities taking place include:

Shut-Down Week: August 30 – September 4th. 9:00 – 4:00 p.m. each day, lunch is provided! Volunteers needed to help spruce up the Northeast Branch! Projects include painting, cleaning, and organizing areas of the branch. Groups welcome!

Youth Sports Coaches: Starting Saturday, September 12th. Youth Sports Coaches needed to help teach skills to children ages 3 – 12. YMCA Sports include soccer, flag football, basketball, and floor hockey.

Childwatch Aides: Ongoing. Summer Shifts 8:00 – 12:00 noon, Fall Shifts starting September 8th –Monday – Friday 9:00 – 1:00 p.m. or evenings 4:00 – 7:45 p.m. Saturdays are also available.

For volunteer opportunities contact Jody Hares at the Northeast Family YMCA at 839-2543.

YMCA Buffalo Niagara is an inclusive association of people committed to a common effort to help individuals and families reach their fullest potential in terms of spirit, mind, and body. As a dynamic, charitable, community-based organization led by volunteers, YMCA Buffalo Niagara has been able to assist tens of thousands of youth, families, and senior citizens so that they can take part in YMCA membership programs.

YMCA Buffalo Niagara serves more than 100,000 people annually through its association of seven branches across Western New York and YMCA Resident Camp Weona. For more information on all of the programs the YMCA has to offer and our financial assistance program, please contact your local YMCA branch or visit us online at www.ymcabuffaloniagara.org.

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