

For Immediate Release: 9/11/08  
Contact: Kathy Vallone, Communications Director  
Phone: 565-6000 ext. 112  
Email: [kvallone@ymcabuffaloniagara.org](mailto:kvallone@ymcabuffaloniagara.org)



## YMCA Buffalo Niagara Announces Strong Kids Campaign Chairs

(Buffalo, NY) –Five branches and the Corporate office of YMCA Buffalo Niagara are pleased to recognize the following individuals as their 2009 Strong Kids Campaign Chairs. These individuals have volunteered their time and talents and will assist YMCA Buffalo Niagara to reach the 2009 Strong Kids Campaign Goal of \$508,000. Last year the YMCA surpassed its goal of \$471,000 thanks to the help of generous support from businesses and individuals in our community.

Supporting the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign helps the YMCA fulfill our charitable mission. Contributions made to the campaign allow the YMCA to give back to those in need in a variety of ways. It helps us provide after-school care to a family that is struggling to make ends meet and fulfills a child's dream of going to summer camp or joining a basketball league. It means that a senior can maintain his/her health and independence while staying connected with his/her community and it means that quality, life-enriching YMCA programs are accessible to all who wish to participate regardless of their ability to pay.

### Corporate

Sally Pyne is the branch manager for Lake Shore Savings Bank. She holds an associates degree and an American Institute Banking Certificate. She attended Erie Community College and Cornell University where she focused on management studies. Sally who is a resident of Orchard Park will serve for her second year as the General Campaign Chair.

### Delaware

Chairs Edie Terrell, Maureen Parks, and co-chair Virginia Sheflin will proudly serve the Delaware Branch. Edie is the community education leader for the Buffalo Board of Education. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in community and human service from SUNY Empire State College and is a resident of Buffalo's University district. Maureen, a long time North Buffalo resident with a long history of community involvement, works for the Internal Revenue Service. Virginia Sheflin, who is an assistant branch manager for First Niagara Bank holds a Bachelors degree in Marketing and Communications from SUNY Brockport and is a resident of Depew.

### Ellicott-Masten

Andre Scott will serve as chair and Yvette Hardy will serve as co-chair for Ellicott-Masten for the 2009 Campaign. Andre is the owner of Shabach Realty Company. He is a former City of Buffalo Police Officer and is a resident of Amherst. Vivian is a retired teacher and employee of AAA. She is a resident of the City of Buffalo.

### **Ken-Ton**

Ken-Ton welcomes Chair Anita Simons and co-chair Jim Mulka to the 2009 campaign positions. Anita, who was the strong kids co-chair last year, is a vice president and branch manager for M&T Bank. Anita is a vice president-branch manager for M&T Bank's Delaware Sheridan Office. She holds a degree in Banking from American Institute of Banking and is a resident of Clarence. Jim Mulka, who is a project manager for Ciminelli Development holds a Masters degree in Architecture from SUNY at Buffalo and is a resident of the Town of Tonawanda.

### **Lancaster**

Johanna Coleman and Pat Burgio will be serving as Lancaster's 2009 Campaign Chairs. Johanna is the town clerk and registrar of Vital Statics for the Town of Lancaster. Pat is the coordinator for community education for the Lancaster School District. Both are residents of Lancaster.

### **Northeast**

The Northeast Branch welcomes chair Scott Yanity and co-chair Andrea Dargush to the 2009 Campaign Leadership role. Scott is a senior account executive for Qwest Communications International. He is a graduate of Niagara University and resident of Amherst. Andrea is a senior planner and consultant for Innovative Emergency Management, Inc. She has a dual masters in Geography and Geology from the State University of New York at Buffalo and is a resident of Snyder and a Western NY "Y" member since 1968.

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. Founded locally in 1852, the YMCA is committed to significantly expanding a fiscally sound, service delivery organization which delivers high quality, market driven services to a growing Western New York constituency.

As a dynamic, charitable, organization, YMCA Buffalo Niagara has been able to assist countless youth, families, and senior citizens so that they may benefit from YMCA programming. YMCA Buffalo Niagara serves more than 100,000 people annually through its association of seven branches across Western New York, YMCA resident Camp Weona as well as 40 community based program sites. From fitness to school age child care programs, swimming lessons to camp, there is something for everyone at the YMCA. 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](http://www.ymcabuffaloniagara.org).

###