

## NEWS RELEASE

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YMCA of Greenville  
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### YMCA OPEN DOORS SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF

**Greenville, SC** – On Friday, February 27, the YMCA of Greenville will officially kickoff this year’s Open Doors Campaign to raise \$538,200. Every year, funds are raised for the sole purpose of helping those in our community who otherwise cannot afford YMCA membership or program fees. “Approximately one in ten members and program participants get some amount of support from the Open Doors funds,” according to Clark Gallivan, the 2009 Campaign Chairman. “The Y is where our community comes together. So, Open Doors funding is critical to insuring an inclusive membership and making the Y’s many benefits available to all.”

The Campaign uses over 300 volunteers in order to reach out and meet this goal. According to Gallivan, the goal is a 9% increase over the prior year, so as to match the increase in qualified requests. “The funds we raise go 100% to provide assistance to those who have qualified based on a sliding scale. We aim to turn no one away because of an inability to pay. However, we do ask everyone to pay what they can. To accomplish this we turn to the Greenville community, who has throughout our 120 year history here, responded generously to the annual appeal for scholarship funds.”

The YMCA of Greenville has four family branches, the FYI Teen Center, the Judson Community Center, YMCA Camp Greenville, and management responsibility for the Sterling Hope Community Center. Donors can contribute to specific Y entities or to specific programs. This year, there is also an online donation site: [www.ymcagreenville.org/giving.php](http://www.ymcagreenville.org/giving.php). The Campaign will conclude with a celebration on April 21.

“Open Doors is aptly named,” said Gallivan. “Whether it’s positive afterschool care for children, aquatic exercise for those recovering from surgeries, or a place to learn how to exercise and eat for a longer life, the YMCA is about making Greenville a wholesome, close-knit community. Every dollar opens doors and improves lives.” For more information or to make a donation to Open Doors, contact Jamie Inman at \_\_\_\_\_.

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