

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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YMCA of Greenville

Contact: Dusty Deming

864-242-1111 ext. 25



### **YMCA OPEN DOORS SCHOLARSHIP CAMPAIGN BREAKS RECORD VOLUNTEERS RAISE \$554,000**

**Greenville, SC** – Since the end of February, volunteers for the YMCA of Greenville have raised \$554,000—a record amount—for the Y’s financial assistance program. This is an 18% increase over last year’s campaign. “This is a stunning tribute to our members and supporters who have reached deep to make Y membership and programs available to all members of our community,” according to Jamie Inman, Development Director for the YMCA of Greenville.

Every year, funds are raised for the sole purpose of helping those 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. “With these funds, we can serve more people than ever before—more children can enjoy summer camp and afterschool care, more arthritis sufferers can go to water aerobics classes, more people can learn to swim or learn to play a sport. These dollars make a big difference in people’s lives and our donors know it.”

The Campaign had over 300 volunteers reaching out to meet and exceed the \$538,200 goal. According to Gallivan, “the funds we raised will 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 -- although, we do ask everyone to pay what they can. And, once again, the Greenville community has responded generously to our annual appeal for scholarship funds. We all have reason to be very proud and happy”

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. The Campaign concludes today with a celebration at the Caine Halter Family Branch on Cleveland Street in Greenville.

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