

Community Needs. Community Values. Envisioning the New Diversey Family YMCA

We are fortunate to live in a vibrant, growing community. Racine has a rich history and has continued to evolve over the decades. The Racine Family YMCA (the “Y”) has grown along with the community since 1875 and continues to live up to its mission – putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build spirit, mind, and body for all. The YMCA is an inclusive organization that welcomes all as it demonstrates its vision to “build strong kids, strong families, and strong communities.”

For the past six months, the Racine Family YMCA has been raising money to build a second facility in Mt. Pleasant. We’ve been gratified by the generous and enthusiastic response of local companies who have helped us to raise \$8.3 million.

Why have these companies stepped forward?

They recognize the needs of their employees and their families.

Employers are taking a greater interest in the health and wellness of employees and their families both to manage health care premiums and to help employees manage stress. Child care is one the largest expenses and areas of concern for a working family. By ensuring access to high-quality child care a company helps its employees have a higher quality of life.

“Even as our company has expanded in the Racine area, investing in the community remains important to us,” explains Ann Daane, CNH Vice President of Human Resources for North America.

They see that Racine is changing.

Just as many of these companies have moved their plants, or over the years have added additional offices in different parts of town, so to comes the need to add the programs and services of the YMCA and other community service organizations to where families are moving.

In addition, the needs of people in the Racine area are changing. The community needs programs to address issues such as childhood obesity, teen leadership, family support, and health and wellness for adults and seniors. The community needs hubs – places where all are welcome and all are invited to grow stronger in spirit, mind and body.

They value collaboration in improving quality of life in Racine.

These companies know that by working together, they can create something greater for the kids and families in our community for generations to come.

We are proud to support this project that enhances our community and provides a great recreational facility that will truly differentiate this community and make it an even more attractive place to live and work," said Ed Lonergan, Diversey President and CEO.

Soon we'll be breaking ground on this wonderful new facility, with its two pools, gym, life management center, multi-generational space, child care center and much more, and we look forward to the official ground breaking ceremony where we can publically recognize those corporations, families and foundations that have pledged support to the project.

In the Racine YMCA historical records, there are details about the amazing number of contributors and volunteers who in 1956 helped to raise the \$2 million that successfully built our downtown facility. We hope you'll consider being part of our 2011 success.

In the end, this second YMCA won't just be a building; it will be a continuation of the Y's 135+ year history of service to the community and a compliment to family and community life for our neighbors living in the western suburbs.