



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

July 14, 2015
For Immediate Release
For more information, call:
Katie Duncan, 706-922-9606
706-829-0164
kduncan@thefamilyy.org

Family YMCA receives South Carolina Head Start Grant

The Family YMCA of Greater Augusta received the Office of Head Start Grant. Including a non-federal share, the Head Start grant totals \$3.6 million. The South Carolina Head Start counties the YMCA will service include Aiken and Barnwell County.

“The YMCA has always been a strong advocate for child and youth development,” says Danny McConnell, President/CEO of the Family YMCA of Greater Augusta. “We’ll be able to prepare many more young children and their families for a bright future with the services that Head Start provides.”

The Head Start program is a nearly \$10 billion federally funded program that provides comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families. Head Start promotes school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and their families. The Family YMCA of Greater Augusta joins over 1600 other local agencies (public, private, for and non-profit) that administers Head Start. These agencies receive grants from the Federal Office of the Head Start in Washington D.C.

--MORE--

“Head Start is a wonderful opportunity for the YMCA to strengthen the foundations of communities by starting at the root of the communities we serve – families,” says Mary Crowder, Senior Vice President of Child and Youth Services for the Family YMCA of Greater Augusta. “We’re looking forward to seeing the positive impact of the services that Head Start offers on the families we’ll serve in South Carolina.”

The Family YMCA of Greater Augusta will fund 476 students in the Head Start Program at 7 sites. These locations include Aiken, Barnwell, Blackville, Graniteville, Monetta, Salley and Williston communities.

Our Head Start staff will include approximately 90 people, including full-time and part-time staff. This will include the following positions:

- Head Start Director, Family Services Manager, Education Manager, Data Manager, Mental Health & Disabilities Manager, Health & Nutrition Specialist, Maintenance Technician
- 26 Teachers
- 26 Assistant Teachers
- 9 Family Advocates
- Sub teachers, floaters, janitors and bus drivers

--30--

FAMILY YMCA OF GREATER AUGUSTA, 945 Broad St, Augusta, GA 30901

About the Family YMCA of Greater Augusta:

With a 157-year legacy of service in the Augusta area, the non-profit Family YMCA offers programs and services at 12 CSRA facilities, including 10 program and wellness facilities, one full-time child development center, and Camp Lakeside, a 100-acre camp located on Lake Thurmond. The Family Y’s Prime Time program provides after-school care at 32 Richmond, McDuffie and Aiken County elementary schools. Currently, more than 50,000 members and more than 20,000 non-member program participants are

served by the Family Y. As part of its mission, financial assistance is available for all programs and services. The Family Y is a partner agency of the United Way of the CSRA, the United Way of Aiken County and the United Way of McDuffie County.