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Major A1CU gift reignites Jackson YMCA capital campaign

YMCA holds ongoing discussions with major potential donors

Jackson, MI – The Jackson YMCA announced that **American 1 Credit Union** is contributing \$600,000 to the capital campaign for a new YMCA facility in downtown Jackson. The major gift includes naming rights to the lobby/main entrance of the new building, at which A1CU will be offering adult financial education classes to the community.

“Our board of directors and executive team believe in the good work that the Y does for all citizens of our community,” said **Martha Fuerstenau**, President and CEO of American 1 Credit Union. “We believe that American 1 and the Jackson Y are well-aligned in our common purpose to welcome and serve all citizens as we seek to create a healthier community be it physical health, social responsibility, or financial wellness.”

Fuerstenau added that the A1CU gift, combined with the generosity of other corporations and entities, will allow the Y “to increase its reach beyond the work that it does today – we believe our community will thrive as a result.”

The A1CU \$600,000 investment in the YMCA brings total pledged contributions to \$14 million. Approximately 18 months ago, the YMCA launched a \$25 million campaign for a new downtown facility; the current building is more than 60 years old and increasingly costly to maintain and repair. Membership at the Y is currently at an all-time high with more than 8,300 members and more than 4,000 weekly visits to the Downtown Branch.

“We are so appreciative of American 1’s investment in a new YMCA facility because it is an investment in the future of our community,” said Jackson YMCA CEO **Shawna Tello**. “American 1’s commitment to serving all is one we share – it is the foundation of our mission – and their gift brings us closer to building a better Y for all.”

New Campaign Leaders – Continuing The Race

The American 1 Credit Union major gift is a direct result of the work of the new capital campaign committee. Led by chair **Scott McIntosh**, a Vice President with **Consumers Energy** and a YMCA Board of Directors member, the new team was introduced earlier this year, along with a new logo indicating this group is continuing the work of the initial campaign team.



**JACKSON YMCA
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**
Passing the Baton & Continuing the Race

More than 30 local business leaders have provided their expertise in four key areas. **Ondrea Bates**, Senior Vice President, Operations & Continuum of Care at **Henry Ford Allegiance Health** and a YMCA Board of Directors member, chairs the Building and Design Committee. Leading the Finance Committee is **John Waldron**, President of **County National Bank**; **Dan Bishop**, retired from Consumers Energy, heads the Communications and Marketing Committee and **Matt Curfman**, President and co-owner of **Richmond Brothers** and the YMCA Board of Directors President, leads the Fundraising Committee.

Along with the A1CU investment, the campaign work has led to ongoing discussions with major potential donors.

To keep the community updated on the YMCA Capital Campaign, Scott McIntosh and Shawna Tello host monthly coffee hours at the downtown YMCA. Free and open to the community, these coffee hours, held 8-9 a.m. the first Tuesday of the month, provide the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about the campaign. **The next coffee hour is Tuesday, Aug. 6 at 8 a.m.**

For more information about the Jackson YMCA, visit JacksonYMCA.org. To learn more about American 1 Credit Union, visit american1cu.org.

About the Jackson YMCA

Since 1896 the Jackson YMCA has worked to provide opportunities for individuals of all walks of life. The Y serves men and women of all ages, religions and economic backgrounds through programs focused on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The Jackson YMCA moved into its current facility in 1962, and has undergone numerous renovations since that time. A volunteer board of directors provides leadership to the Association, a member of the national organization – the YMCA of the USA. The Y is one of the nation’s leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Y’s engage 22 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Visit www.JacksonYMCA.org.