



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**NORTH SUBURBAN
YMCA**

2705 Techny Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
www.nsymca.org

2012: YMCA Transformations and Inspirations

Howard Schultz, CEO/Executive Director, NSYMCA

When I look back at the last twelve months at the North Suburban Y, a wide range of adjectives come to mind: exciting, exhausting, fulfilling, challenging, and most of all, inspiring. As we moved forward with a series of long-planned and much-needed renovations, we had the good fortune to work with dedicated board members, volunteers, donors, and contractors who put their whole hearts into making our community center the best it could be. Our staff persevered through construction dust without ever missing a step, and our members came in droves even when lane closures on Techny Road slowed their commute. In the fall, we unveiled a host of changes that made our building more comfortable, accessible, and energy efficient. At the end of 2012, with our beautiful new lobby, locker rooms, and other improvements feeling like home, we celebrated a record year for new memberships, member retention, and program registration.

Aside from the physical transformation of the Y's building, there has been an evolution of the Y's relationship with the community at large. We hosted a number of outstanding public events, including Healthy Kids Day, our Grand Re-Opening Celebration Open House, and our fifth annual Spooky Halloween Party. Our new Junior Executive Board organized Y-Fest, a showcase for teen bands that raised funds to fight adolescent depression. Partnering with our community organizations, we presented the Taste of Asia festival, the Gig at the Y Concert Series, and a juried Junior High Art Show. Literally thousands of people came through our Y for these special events and got a taste of the energetic spirit that makes it such a special place. We also came together as a community to support families in financial need at the Ken & Alta Thiel Strong Kids Dinner, which raised \$250,000 to keep YMCA programs accessible to everyone.

We're now looking ahead to a 2013 that keeps our momentum running. We've launched our *Race to the Finish* campaign to raise funds for remaining projects in our building, including infrastructure improvements and upgraded program spaces. First up: our planned Youth and Family Fitness Center with specialized equipment and programs designed to fight the epidemic of childhood obesity. We'll open our doors to the community in January with our new Community Art Gallery, host a special event for Black History Month in February, and get ready for a range of activities throughout the year. Most of all, we'll be there every day to greet our members and guests with a friendly smile, a shining facility, and enriching programs for all ages. If you haven't been to the Y lately, stop by soon – you don't know you're missing!

About the North Suburban YMCA

The YMCA is a not-for-profit entity and relies on donations to fund capital improvements and keep its programs available to all, including those facing financial hardship. All board members are community volunteers, who donate their time, talents and financial resources. Located at 2705 Techny Road in Northbrook, the YMCA has served area families in its twelve-city region for over 40 years. The Y is about youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility, providing programs and services that meet the needs of our community and are accessible to all. For more information or to make a donation call Tara Bilby at 847-272-7250, tbilby@nsymca.org, or visit www.nsymca.org.

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