



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**NORTH SUBURBAN
YMCA**

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

For More Information Contact:

Carolyn Gessner

carolyn@creativemarketing.co

www.creativemarketing.co

847 858-4203 (direct)

847 784-9100 (office)

847 784-9101 (fax)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fun Design Turns Heads at YMCA's New Kidzone and Kindergarten Club
Child Care Spaces Emphasizes Imagination and Convenience

Northbrook, Illinois: January 2012 – Young children at the North Suburban YMCA are enjoying fun new play settings in the Y's renovated KidZone and Kindergarten Club rooms. Both spaces have been updated dramatically with creative, child-centered designs that kids will find irresistible, while also making the spaces more efficient and secure.

The KidZone, a complimentary babysitting service available to children of family members while their parents work out, dance, swim or participate in any other Y program, has been relocated to a convenient location near the locker rooms on the Y's lower level. With its eye-popping primary colors and whimsical tilted doorways, the KidZone reminds visitors of the world of Dr. Seuss or Pee-Wee's Playhouse. Multi-level windows to the exterior hallways allow children of all heights to peek out, while also enabling moms to discreetly check on their kids at play. Other improvements include all new flooring and furniture, as well as the crucial addition of a self-contained bathroom with child-friendly fixtures.

The Kindergarten Club, located on the main floor near the swimming pool observation deck, has been updated with new brightly colored paint that matches the newly-installed handicapped accessible playground that adjoins the room, plus new lighting and furnishings. The classroom houses the Y's licensed after-school program that also includes a hot lunch and transportation from local schools for kindergarten age children, with extended hours available for working parents.

"The new KidZone and Kindergarten Club rooms are huge improvements that all our young families will enjoy," commented Howard Schultz, Executive Director/CEO of the NSYMCA. "Our free babysitting service is one of the most popular features of Y membership, and our Kindergarten Club continues to grow every year. We know that kids will be excited to explore our new spaces."

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The KidZone and Kindergarten Club projects are two of many dramatic improvements currently underway as a result of the Y's ongoing Capital Campaign. Additional projects include complete lobby renovations, locker room upgrades, security and signage improvements, and large-scale repairs to the building's aged mechanical systems. As funds become available, the Y also plans to renovate its swimming pool and track areas with the addition of windows, lighting and other upgrades. To support the Y's Capital Campaign efforts, contact Lee Ann Johnson at ljohnson@nsymca.org, 847 272 7250 x. 1225.



Photo 1 Caption: Whimsical windows and doors are just the start of the creative design features in the YMCA's new KidZone.



Photo 2 Caption: The Y's Kindergarten Club has been updated with colorful new furnishings, paint and lighting.

About the North Suburban YMCA

The YMCA is a not-for-profit entity and relies on donations to fund capital improvements and transform the facility. 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.