



It's deeper here.™

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**Y OF CENTRAL MARYLAND CELEBRATES EXPANSION OF WALTER & BETTY WARD
FAMILY CENTER Y**

Two new pools, more exercise space and family fun room added

(Baltimore, MD)— On Saturday, January 19, 2013, the Y of Central Maryland celebrated the expansion of the Walter and Betty Ward Family Center Y with a ribbon cutting and free family-fun celebration. Hundreds of community members celebrated the opening of an indoor swim center, outdoor pool patio, a family fun room, family lockers and an additional multipurpose space.

The much-anticipated swim center includes two salt water pools, an exercise pool and warm water, family fun pool with water park style features including a slide and squirting hoops, among other features. In addition, a family fun room was added which provides games, arts & crafts and comfortable seating for kids and parents to relax and have fun together. Additionally, an indoor cycle room, boys and girls locker rooms and more exercise space were also added. All together the expansion added approximately 19,000 square feet to the 29,000 square foot Family Center.

Those present at the ribbon cutting to celebrate the newly expanded center included Mrs. Betty Ward of the Walter and Betty Ward family for which the center is named, Jerry Marquez, Chair of the Y's Harford County Volunteer Community Advisory Board, John Hoey, CEO & President of the Y of Central Maryland and Suzanne Green, Director of the Walter and Betty Ward Family Center Y, Councilman Dion Guthrie, Aaron Tomarchio, Chief of Staff for Harford County, and Vanessa Milio, CEO of the Harford County of Commerce. Jerry Marquez made note of the fact that in addition to fun, the new Y swim center would provide opportunities for children and adults in Harford County to learn to enjoy the water safely.

Following the ribbon cutting, attendees celebrated the expansion by swimming and playing in the pools, climbing on the climbing wall, bouncing on the moon bounce, having their faces painted, playing with balloon animals, participating in free exercise classes, enjoying free snacks and more.

Our Mission:

The Y of Central Maryland is a charitable organization dedicated to developing the full potential of every individual through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Our Commitment:

At the Y, we are committed to providing family-oriented, affordable, high quality programs that lead to:

- Every child and youth deepening positive values, their commitment to service and their motivation to learn
- Every family building stronger bonds, achieving greater work/life balance and becoming more engaged with their communities
- An enhanced quality of life in the communities in which we operate

The Y is a place for everyone. People of all races, ages, faiths, gender, abilities, backgrounds and incomes are welcome and financial assistance on a sliding scale is available to those who would otherwise be unable to participate.

Our Values:

Caring, Honesty, Respect and Responsibility

More information can be found at www.ymaryland.org.

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