



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YMCA TO BUILD A SECOND NEW FACILITY DOWNTOWN

PITTSBURGH (December 13, 2007) – A new extension site of the Downtown YMCA will be built to better serve the needs of its current members and the downtown community. The YMCA at U.S. Steel Tower, is strategically located to serve the central business district. The YMCA is partnering with UPMC Health Plan and the new site will feature the UPMC Health Plan Wellness Center.

“The impact the YMCA at U.S. Steel Tower will have on our community is huge. This location will allow us to reach out and engage all those who seek well-being of spirit, mind, and body,” said John Cardone, vice president of Activate Pittsburgh, and executive director of the Downtown YMCA, a branch of the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh.

The YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh will make the announcement today at a donor appreciation event at Larrimor’s in the Union Trust Building beginning at 5:30 p.m. and running until 7:30. The event is being hosted by Lucas Piatt, Vice President of Millcraft Industries, and Bonnie Van Kirk, former Chair of the Downtown YMCA Board of Management.

Not to be confused with the previously announced move of the Downtown Y to the Market Square location, the YMCA at U.S. Steel Tower will function as an extension, one Downtown Y in two central locations, with many volunteer opportunities for people to help the community.

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“Having a YMCA presence in two locations in the downtown area demonstrates the commitment of the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh to health and wellness and will be an integral part of the continued economic development of downtown and all of the Pittsburgh area,” said Cardone.

The YMCA extension site will offer a full staff of wellness professionals and an extensive array of classes and services, including nutrition, obesity, smoking cessation, weight management, physical therapy, pre-and post-natal programming, older adult programs, and cardiac rehabilitation. This site will also support the Activate Pittsburgh programming, including After School with Activate Pittsburgh (A.S.A.P.) and Teens with Activate Pittsburgh (T.A.P).

“We are so pleased to be a partner with the YMCA,” said Diane P. Holder, president of UPMC Health Plan. “This new facility at the U.S. Steel Tower is an exciting opportunity for UPMC Health Plan to broaden its commitment to wellness within the community. We look forward to working with the YMCA to help Pittsburghers improve their health.”

The 14,000-square-foot UPMC Health Plan Wellness Center at U.S. Steel Tower will be located next to the USX Credit Union and across from the Au Bon Pain on the concourse level of the USX Towers. It is slated to open by summer 2008. Members of the YMCA at U.S. Steel Tower will be able to use the facilities at any of the other YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh locations.

The mission of the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh is to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities by developing the spirit, mind, and body of every individual. Programs offered by the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh serve more than 1.4 million participants each year and include after-school care and childcare, family programs, outdoor camping, community outreach, sports, health and fitness, youth counseling, and senior assistance. As the city's leading resource for health and wellness, the YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh's Activate Pittsburgh program is working to overcome the obesity epidemic and improve this region's health through programming designed for our diverse populations.

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About UPMC Health Plan

UPMC Health Plan, the second-largest health insurer in Western Pennsylvania, is owned by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), one of the nation's top-ranked health systems. The integrated partner companies of the UPMC Insurance Services Division – which includes UPMC Health Plan, Work Partners, EAP Solutions, UPMC *for You* (Medical Assistance), and Community Care Behavioral Health – offer a full range of group health insurance, Medicare, CHIP, Medical Assistance, behavioral health, employee assistance, and workers' compensation products and services to nearly 1 million members. Our local provider network includes UPMC as well as community providers, totaling more than 80 hospitals and more than 7,500 physicians in a 29-county region. For more information, visit www.upmchealthplan.com.

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