



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **YMCA of Northwest North Carolina Awarded \$250,000 Grant by Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation**

**WINSTON-SALEM, NC – December 15, 2009** – The Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation has awarded \$250,000 to the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina to be used at the Jerry Long Family YMCA (formerly West Forsyth Family YMCA).

The grant, which will be awarded over a period of five years, will develop a family and youth wellness area and a youth study area at the YMCA branch. "The YMCA's mission is 'helping people reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind and body,' and this gift from Lowe's will benefit community youth and adults in all of these ways," says Curt Hazelbaker, president and CEO of the YMCA. "Lowe's has also had a long history with our YMCA that began with the Wilkes Family YMCA and continues today with this tremendous gift to benefit the Jerry Long Family YMCA in Clemmons. We're humbled by their generous support and appreciate their commitment to helping the YMCA change lives in our community."

"Lowe's has a long history of giving back in the communities where our employees live and work," said Larry D. Stone, chairman of Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation. "By supporting the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina, we are contributing to an organization that's important to our customers and employees and helping build a stronger foundation for the children who will be tomorrow's employees, homeowners and community leaders."

For more information about the Jerry Long Family YMCA, please visit [www.jerrylongymca.org](http://www.jerrylongymca.org) or call 336-712-2000. For more information on the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina and its many branches and services, visit [www.ymcanwnc.org](http://www.ymcanwnc.org) or contact Amy McNeil, Director of Communications, at [a.mcneil@ymcanwnc.org](mailto:a.mcneil@ymcanwnc.org) or 336-777-6252.

#### **About YMCA of Northwest North Carolina**

When the first YMCA was established in 1844 in London, England, its mission was to promote positive Christian values as well as healthy behaviors and activities. Today, the YMCA movement has spread to more than 130 countries around the world, supporting and influencing the lives of millions of men, women and children of all backgrounds. The YMCA of Northwest North Carolina association, a United Way agency, has been serving Winston-Salem and the surrounding areas since 1888. We have created a tradition of enhancing the lives of people in our community through an ever-growing list of programs and opportunities. We're proud to serve the people of Northwest North Carolina by helping to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities. Our association currently serves more than 51,000 YMCA members and more than 100,000 people with our memberships and programs. The YMCA of Northwest North Carolina has adopted Healthy Community 2015 initiatives to prepare youth and teens to succeed, strengthen and support families, develop caring communities and adopt healthy living habits. The YMCA offers financial assistance for memberships and programs through the Open Doors Program. Learn more about the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina at <http://www.ymcanwnc.org>.

#### **About Lowe's**

#### **Administrative Offices**

**Winston Tower · 301 N. Main Street, Suite 1900 · Winston-Salem, NC 27101 · 336-777-8055**

[www.ymcawnc.org](http://www.ymcawnc.org)

Mission: Helping people reach their God-given potential in spirit, mind and body.

A United Way Agency





Lowe's is a proud sponsor of Habitat for Humanity International, American Red Cross, United Way of America, and the Home Safety Council, in addition to numerous non-profit organizations and programs that help communities across the country. In 2008, Lowe's and the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Foundation together contributed more than \$25 million to support community and education projects in the United States and Canada. Lowe's also encourages volunteerism through the Lowe's Heroes program, a company-wide employee volunteer initiative. Lowe's is a FORTUNE 50 company with fiscal year 2008 sales of \$48.2 billion and has more than 1,700 stores in the United States and Canada. For more information, visit [Lowes.com/community](http://Lowes.com/community).

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