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YMCA of Greater Erie

YMCA Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

For Immediate Release

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## Downtown YMCA Teams up with Michael's Hair Salon for 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Hair Cut Event

Downtown Y accepting book bag and school supply donations

Erie, PA – The YMCA of Greater Erie's Downtown YMCA has teamed up with Michael's Hair Salon for their 5<sup>th</sup> annual free hair cut event on Aug. 28, 2010 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at Pfeiffer Burleigh School.

The Downtown Y is accepting donations of book bags and school supplies to be given to the children at this event. Cash donations also are accepted and will be used to purchase items for the kids.

Product donations can be dropped in the lobby of the Downtown Y, 31 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street; cash donations should be enclosed in an envelope and marked to the attention of Vicki Stilson.

-30-

### About the Y

The Y's Mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

The Y's Cause: At the Y, strengthening community is our cause. Every day, the Y works side by side with our neighbors to ensure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

The Y, founded in 1860, is one of Erie's leading nonprofits (501 c-3), committed to strengthening our community in the areas of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility:

**Youth Development:** Nurturing the potential of every child and teen.

The Y believes that all kids deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. That's why, through the Y, thousands of Erie's youth today are engaged in programs that encourage Y core-values – character, honesty, respect and responsibility. Unique community partnerships with the City of Erie and the Erie Housing Authority serve Erie's most at-risk, underserved kids and teens directly in their neighborhoods. In our membership and program centers, award-winning childcare, before & after school care, summer camp, youth sports, swimming, youth fitness, leadership, mentoring and volunteerism, are all Y programs that are helping Erie's kids and teens reach their full potential.

Healthy Living: Improving health and well-being.

Through advocacy and leadership, the Y is a leading voice on health and well-being. With a mission centered on balance, the Y brings families closer together, encourages good health and fosters connections through fitness, sports, fun and shared interests. As a result, thousands of Erie's youth, adults and families are receiving the support, guidance and resources needed to achieve greater health and well-being for their spirit, mind and body.

Social Responsibility: Giving back and providing support to our neighbors.

Across Erie County, the Y helps people give back and assist our neighbors by offering them opportunities to volunteer, advocate and support programs that strengthen community. At the Y, we are volunteer-founded, volunteer-led organization. Volunteers are found at every level of the Y – in childcare, health & wellness, youth mentoring, board leadership and more. Through the Y's We Build People annual scholarship campaign, the Y provides financial assistance and income-based membership rates so that everyone can benefit from Y programs and membership. Additionally, the Y partners with other area non-profits enabling our members to support the community through donations and volunteerism.

Involvement at the Y: The Y strives to engage more people in the communities it serves whether it is as a member, volunteer, supporter or advocate. Each YMCA association is an independent, autonomous organization with its own governing board, professional staff and assets.

The Y By the Numbers:

The Y has 4 membership branches: the County Y located in Edinboro, the Downtown, Eastside and Glenwood Park Ys. Eighteen award-winning childcare centers provide care to children as young as six weeks. Unique community partnerships with the City of Erie and the Erie Housing Authority serve Erie's most at-risk, underserved kids and teens directly in their neighborhoods.

30,000 people of all ages, incomes, backgrounds and abilities are served by the Y and Y programs. Financial assistance is available for all Y memberships and programs.

To learn more about the Y, [www.ymcaerie.org](http://www.ymcaerie.org).