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PRESS RELEASE

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YMCA ANNOUNCES MAJOR \$2 MILLION GIFT AT ANNUAL MAYOR'S COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING BREAKFAST

Gift will support construction of new west Louisville facility and programs

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (November 20, 2018) – During the 28th Annual YMCA Mayor's Community Thanksgiving Breakfast at the Kentucky International Convention Center today, the YMCA of Greater Louisville announced a \$2 million gift from Brown-Forman that will support construction of the new west Louisville YMCA facility – to be named the Republic Bank Foundation YMCA - as well as programs across the organization's 11 locations in Metro Louisville and southern Indiana.

The \$2 million gift will be applied multiple ways over the next five years:

- \$1 million of the gift will support the construction of the new Republic Bank Foundation YMCA facility, located at 1800 West Broadway in west Louisville.
- \$500,000 has been designated to support access and memberships to the new YMCA facility by the surrounding neighborhood.
- \$500,000 will support several programs and services across the YMCA of Greater Louisville system, including Black Achievers and Safety Around Water.

Tricia Burke, board chair of the YMCA of Greater Louisville, introduced the Brown-Forman Health & Wellness Center that will be housed in the new Republic Bank Foundation YMCA facility.

"We are proud to make this significant contribution to our neighbors in west Louisville, Brown-Forman's home for more than 90 years," said Paul Varga, CEO of Brown-Forman Corporation. "Brown-Forman is a long-time partner and supporter of the YMCA and the work it does to make our communities stronger. We are very excited to welcome our new neighbor and to partner with them to positively impact our neighborhood."

“This gift will transform the lives of families and children in our community,” said Steve Tarver, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Louisville. “Brown-Forman has demonstrated incredible leadership through their support and philanthropic efforts for many years. This gift is an impactful example of their generosity.”

The annual breakfast event has become a popular tradition, bringing community leaders together to celebrate the city and its many achievements. Mayor Fischer joined local officials as attendees learned about initiatives and programs, including today’s gift announcement. During the event, Brad Smith, past YMCA board chair, was recognized with the 2018 YMCA Spirit of Louisville Award.

The YMCA of Greater Louisville broke ground in April 2017 on a new 62,000 square-foot building, located in west Louisville at the corner of Broadway and 18th streets. The \$28 million investment is expected to extend the Y’s mission into the Park Hill, Russell and California neighborhoods, and other communities in west Louisville, adding half a million dollars of new payroll per year to the area.

The two-story building will include a state-of-the-art fitness center, 25-meter swimming lap/family pool, gymnasium, classrooms, modern locker rooms, an indoor track and a Kid’s Club that will provide childcare while members work out. In addition, collaborative partners will bring healthcare, financial service options and more to the area. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019.

About the Louisville area YMCAs

The Y is the nation’s leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The YMCA has been listening and responding to the needs of our communities for more than 160 years and is dedicated to building healthy, confident, connected and secure children, adults, families and communities.

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