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For Immediate Release

November is Military Family Month at the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA

Families with loved ones serving in the military can connect at the Y

[New Haven, CT, November 7, 2012] – Military Family Month provides all Americans the opportunity to recognize the dedication, sacrifice and service of military personnel and their families. The Central Connecticut Coast YMCA branches recognize military families this November and all year round by bringing families together to have fun, grow, strengthen their relationships and build connections with other families waiting at home.

“The Central Connecticut Coast YMCA is a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community, and this begins with ensuring all people are welcome and can find a place to connect – as in the case of families who are separated from loved ones who are serving our great nation,” said Christian Engle, Central Connecticut Coast YMCA Senior Vice President & COO. “Having a loved one in harm’s way puts a lot of stress on family members at home and the Y offers a supportive environment to make the situation more manageable.”

First established by the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and recognized by first lady Nancy Reagan in 1993, Military Family Month recognizes the dedication and service of military personnel and their families. On Oct. 30, 2009, President Barack Obama continued this important initiative by proclaiming November as Military Family Month, calling on “all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in the support of our service members and our Nation.”

To learn more about the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA and its programming that supports family time, contact us at (203) 777-9622, or visit www.cccymca.org.

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About the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA

The Central Connecticut Coast YMCA is a community service agency dedicated to addressing community needs that enrich families, promote health and wellness, develop youth and build self-esteem for all. YMCA membership and participation is open to everyone regardless of race or ethnic background, religious preference or ability to pay. In 2011, the CCC YMCA served 3,000 families daily in child care programs; 10,000 kids participated in youth sports programs; 15,500 children took advantage of the Y’s instructional swimming lessons; 4,693 kids attended one of our day camps, 776 youth experienced the magic of resident camp; and 1,685 people were served through one of our housing programs. The CCC YMCA also provided \$3.37 million in

direct financial assistance to more than 6,000 children, individuals and families. The Central Connecticut Coast Y is based in downtown New Haven with eleven Y branches in Greater New Haven and Greater Bridgeport while also operating YMCA Camp Hi-Rock, a 1,000 acre residential and day camp in Mt. Washington, Massachusetts. **W** cccymca.org **P** 203 777 9622

About the ASYMCA

The non-profit Armed Services YMCA is a proud partner organization of the YMCA. The top-rated Armed Services YMCA of the USA makes military life easier by providing social services for young enlisted military and their families- helping nearly 500,000 with the help of 18,000 volunteers nationwide each year. The ASYMCA impacts Military Families with fun events, youth development, healthy living and assistance programs for service members, their families and wounded, injured, and ill. Rather than fitness facilities with traditional dues or membership, the Armed Services YMCA offers programs to active duty and their families at no or low cost. The National Armed Services YMCA Headquarters in Springfield, VA hosts 150 Armed Services YMCA program sites nationwide. There is no charge for dues or membership and the organization is a privately funded charity that does not receive any government funding. We share the same core values of the YMCA of Caring, Respect, Honesty and Responsibility and we focus our efforts toward young enlisted military personnel and their families- those on the frontlines that need it most. If they carry an active ID card, they are considered members of the Armed Services YMCA. Please visit www.asymca.org to learn how the YMCA actively partners with the ASYMCA through the YMCA Department of Defense Initiative and other no-cost programs.

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