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The Ralphola Taylor Community Center YMCA Receives a Grant from the Fairfield County Community Foundation to Support Summer Youth

(New Haven, CT July 29, 2013) The Fairfield County Community Foundation, one of the area's largest non-profit organizations, generously awarded a \$15,000 grant to the Ralphola Taylor Community Center YMCA, a branch of the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA, to help support their summer Youth Alternatives to Violence Program.

Thanks to the FCCF Grant, the Taylor Center Y is able to serve 100 – 150 disadvantaged, at risk youth ages 11 to 18 from the East End of Bridgeport. Based on their input, classes and events are being held to help increase self-esteem, teach good listening skills, and encourage positive choices as the participants set goals for their future. The recreational and social activities are positive alternatives to crime, violence and gang membership.

The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes philanthropy to build and sustain a vital and prosperous community where all have the opportunity to participate and thrive.

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 2012, the CCC YMCA served 85,000 kids, families and adults in twenty-five towns and cities. Approximately 32,000 youth participated in child care, youth sports, summer camping and Youth in Government programs. 7,600 children took advantage of the Y's instructional swimming lessons; 34,500 youth and adults participated in health, wellness, education, physical activity and diabetes prevention programs and services. 1,700 people were served through one of our housing programs. The CCC YMCA also provided \$3 million in direct financial assistance to approximately 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 Fairfield County Community Foundation: The Fairfield County Community Foundation promotes the growth of community and regional philanthropy to improve the quality of life throughout Fairfield County. Individuals, families, corporations and organizations can establish charitable funds and contribute to existing funds. The Foundation provides philanthropic advisory services, and develops and leads initiatives to tackle critical community issues. It is in compliance with the Council on Foundations' national standards for community foundations. The Foundation has awarded over \$151 million in grants to nonprofits in Fairfield County and beyond. For more information, visit www.fccfoundation.org

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