

eliminating racism empowering women

ywca press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Non-profits and Employers Prepare to Support Parents as CPS Teacher Strike Looms

Chicago, Illinois – With Chicago Public Schools teachers expected to strike next week, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is prepared to help parents and employers meet anticipated childcare needs through its RECESS™ program.

Underwritten by employers, RECESS™ offers full-day childcare events at worksites when employees' school-age children are out-of-school. This includes during school holidays, teacher in-service days, or anytime an employer recognizes its employees will need this childcare support for school-aged children – such as during a teacher strike. RECESS™ can also be utilized for annual Take Your Child to Work days. Employers underwrite RECESS™ because they recognize the cost of lost productivity when parents cannot come to work because they are unable to access childcare for their school-aged children.

Fees for RECESS™ vary depending on number of children and scale of commitment. RECESS™ staff are trained educators who plan and implement a full day of engaging content and activities. The program incorporates STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) elements so, not only will the children have fun, but they will be building 21st-century skills that will position them to compete in a global economy.

Employers interested in utilizing RECESS™ during the CPS teacher strike, or for another occasion should contact (630) 790-6600 x2445 or recess@ywcachicago.org.

About YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

Founded in 1876, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is a social enterprise committed to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. As a leading association of YWCA USA, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago impacts tens of thousands of women and families annually through comprehensive

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human services provided across the region. YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is a leading service provider in the areas of early childhood and childcare provider services, family support services, youth STEM programming, and economic empowerment services. Located in the third-largest American city with the third-highest percentage of women in the U.S., YWCA Metropolitan Chicago serves as a national incubator for innovative programming, outreach and engagement strategies. Contributing to our diverse and balanced economy, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is working at the individual and system levels to create an inclusive marketplace where everyone thrives. The organization is also an active member of many national, state, county and city-level coalitions, representing the interests of and advocating for policies that positively affect women and families. Learn more at www.ywcachicago.org or follow @ywcachicago.