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Franklin

#### CITY, REGIONAL YMCAs WILL JOIN FORCES

The James L. Camp Jr. Family YMCA in Franklin will merge with the YMCA of South Hampton Roads on July 1.

The Franklin YMCA has about 1,500 member households, said Chuck Harris, president and CEO of the YMCA of South Hampton Roads, which has 16 branches and 36,000 member households.

Current members of the Franklin Y will not face increased rates if they wish to use only that branch, Harris said. They will have to pay higher rates to use other Y's in the network, he said.

Future members of the Franklin Y also will have to pay the increased fees.

"The Camp YMCA has a rich history of working with teens, and that's high on our agenda," Harris said. "We think we can learn a lot from the kind of programming they've been doing."

For the Franklin Y, he said, "this takes them from being in an isolated situation as an independent Y in a smaller community to having all the resources available to a larger urban Y."

- Philip Walker