



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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YMCA President and CEO Announces Retirement

Norfolk, VA - The YMCA of South Hampton Roads announces that President and CEO Charles E. Harris plans to retire September 1, 2012.

Harris has been employed by the YMCA for 42 years, and has served as President and CEO of the YMCA of South Hampton Roads for 22 of those years.

"The YMCA celebrates Chuck's career," says Walter R. Potter, the YMCA's Chairman of the Board of Directors. "Since Chuck's leadership began in 1989, so much has been accomplished as a team. The YMCA of South Hampton Roads moved from 38,000 members and participants to now serving over 200,000 people in our community annually."

Throughout his tenure, Harris has witnessed a great deal of growth and success.

With more than 51 locations in 66 communities, our local association, once a small YMCA in an underserved market, is now the 20th largest Y in North America. Expanding our service area from the Eastern Shore of Virginia to Northeastern North Carolina has made it possible for the Y to have an enduring impact in areas where Y services are needed.

In 1998, Harris's vision of building the first resident camp in the commonwealth of Virginia became a reality when the YMCA purchased beachfront property on the Eastern Shore. YMCA Camp Silver Beach continues to offer youth outdoor adventure and life skills, serving almost 2000 campers each summer.

One of Harris's proudest accomplishments is the growth of the We Build People annual giving campaign during his time as President and CEO. In 2010, the Y raised over 2.1 million dollars to make membership and programs affordable to men, women and children of all ages.

A search committee will work with staff from YMCA of the USA, the national resource office for YMCAs, to find Harris's successor.

ABOUT THE YMCA OF SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS

The YMCA of South Hampton Roads is a nonprofit, community-based health and human services organization that serves over 200,000 children and families each year. More than 23% of those families receive financial assistance through the Open Doors program, helping them achieve their full potential in spirit, mind and body. The YMCA's doors are open to people of all ages, backgrounds, abilities and incomes.

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