



Chesapeake General Hospital And Its Family Of Providers

736 Battlefield Blvd., North
Chesapeake, VA 23320
www.chesapeakehealth.com



YMCA of South Hampton Roads
We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

312 West Bute Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
www.ymcashr.org

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Chesapeake Health and the YMCA of South Hampton Roads, two local not-for-profit organizations, are working together to expand the health, fitness and recreational services available in the Western Branch area of Chesapeake and Northern Suffolk communities. Beginning July 1, the YMCA of South Hampton Roads will assume ownership of the Lifestyle Center in Western Branch, located on Taylor Road.

At its May 26 board meeting, the Chesapeake Hospital Authority approved the agreement to sell the facility and 9.4 acres to the YMCA of South Hampton Roads. The establishment of a YMCA family center in the Western Branch and Northern Suffolk communities was an important goal of the YMCA's *Imagine the Possibilities* Strategic Plan.

The two organizations, guided by similar missions and a commitment to provide quality health, wellness and fitness programs to the community, structured the arrangement to be as advantageous as possible for everyone.

YMCA leaders are currently putting the finishing touches on a thorough transition plan. A dedicated page on the YMCA's website (www.ymcashr.org) has been developed to provide preliminary information and answer many of the questions interested parties may have.

All of the Western Branch Lifestyle Center's approximately 3,000 members will have the opportunity to join the YMCA at the existing Lifestyle fee structure for one year. Lifestyle Center members may choose expanded services and access to the YMCA's 12 fully equipped family centers throughout South Hampton Roads, Northeast North Carolina and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. A YMCA family membership allows children of all ages to participate in programs and services at the facility, which currently only provides membership to ages 13 and older.

The YMCA plans to invest \$300,000 in state-of-the-art fitness equipment for the Western Branch facility. The equipment is expected to be installed July 1st through the 3rd with a special Opening Event planned for July 4th.

As the 20th largest YMCA organization in the nation serving over 110,000 people annually, the YMCA of South Hampton Roads is well equipped to enhance the health and fitness programs for the citizens of Chesapeake and Northern Suffolk and bring affordable services to all those who desire an environment of family, fun and fitness.

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The YMCA will retain the current Lifestyle Center staff. The Lifestyle Center currently has about 80 employees. About 30 are considered full time.

In recent months, Chesapeake Health has strategically redefined its mission to focus resources toward its core mission of providing acute healthcare. By working with the YMCA, Chesapeake Health leadership wanted to ensure that members of the Western Branch Lifestyle Center had access to the best fitness offerings available.

“Chesapeake Health values fitness and wellness as part of its mission,” said Christopher Mosley, CEO and president of Chesapeake Health. “However, it recognizes – in this environment of declining reimbursements, staffing shortages, escalating costs of clinical equipment and the increasing community need for clinical services – that our core clinical services demand more of our resources.”

Robert Oman, chairman of the Chesapeake Hospital Authority’s Strategic Planning and Facilities Committee echoed that. “Hospitals locally and nationally are making tough decisions in determining how to best serve very important parties,” he said. “In this case, the decision was made that it was in Chesapeake Health’s best interest to work with the YMCA of South Hampton Roads.”

In addition to its relationship with the YMCA of South Hampton Roads, Chesapeake Health will continue its commitment to serve the healthcare needs of the Western Branch area of Chesapeake. Plans are underway to expand clinical services in that area.

“This is a great opportunity for two non-profit agencies to offer health, fitness and recreational services to the local community. Everyone benefits; the YMCA will continue its 155-year history of helping children, adults and families build a healthy spirit, mind and body while Chesapeake Health can focus on providing the community dedicated quality healthcare,” said YMCA of South Hampton Roads Metropolitan Board Chair, Dee Carpenter.

The YMCA of South Hampton Roads is a nonprofit, community-based health and human services organization that serves over 110,000 children and families each year. More than 14% 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.