



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**NORTH SUBURBAN  
YMCA**  
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Northbrook, IL 60062  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**North Suburban YMCA Special Services Receive Support from Northbrook Rotary Grant**

**Northbrook, IL: May 2016** – The Northbrook Rotary Club has awarded a grant to the North Suburban YMCA to help fund a new comprehensive system of services to the special needs community. The \$2500 grant will support the expansion of the Y’s “Special Services Wheel,” encompassing programming for youth and young adults with special needs. To facilitate that expansion, the Y recently hired new Special Services Coordinator Elizabeth Frusti to bridge the Y’s in-house programming with special services provided by partner agencies and enhance outreach to the special needs community.

The Y’s Special Services Wheel encompasses a number of organizations and programs that support the special needs community through the Y. These groups include:

- In-House YMCA Services: H.A.W.K.S. (“Helping All Wonderful Kids Succeed”) programming in yoga, swimming, workout buddies, computer, art, and dance, in addition to the Y’s Special Olympics swim team
- Partner Services: Exercise Connection, Lekotek (a division of Anixter), and Total Link 2 Community
- Facility Partners: ACT, Our Place, Clearbrook, and Glenbrook United Special Olympics teams
- Employment Services: Keshet, Total Link 2 Community, NSEED, and high school transition programs
- Resources: parent volunteer committees, YMCA Board involvement, and other outside community resources.

The Y’s Special Services Coordinator will act as the hub of the wheel, to build connections and evolve the existing programs to address emerging needs. The Y serves a 15-city region in the northern suburbs and provides financial assistance as necessary through its Strong Kids Fund.

As a service organization dedicated to service above self in order to improve the world, including its local community, the Northbrook Rotary Club supports projects in the Northbrook area through funding and volunteer services. Local financial grants from \$500-\$2,500 are awarded each spring. The Rotary Club has had a long and productive relationship with the NSYMCA, including volunteer service by

Rotarians at Y community events and the participation of several Rotarians as Y volunteer Board members.

“We are so appreciative of the Northbrook Rotary’s longtime support of our Y’s programs,” noted Howard Schultz, NSYMCA President and Executive Director. “This grant is will help us fund additional program development for children, youth and teens with special needs and promote outreach across partnerships and community agencies. We also will present events throughout the year that expand on our current offerings and enhance each agency’s strength to serve this population.”



*Photo Caption: Muriel Collison of the Northbrook Rotary Club presents a grant check to Howard Schultz, President and CEO of the North Suburban YMCA, on May 10, 2016. The grant provides \$2,500 to support special needs services at the Y.*

#### **About the North Suburban YMCA**

The YMCA is a charitable organization and relies on donations to make services available for all families and individuals in its 15-city region. All board members are volunteers, who donate their time, talents and financial resources. Located at 2705 Techny Road in Northbrook, the YMCA has served the northern suburbs of Chicago for over 45 years. The Y is about youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility, providing programs and services that address the needs of our diverse community and are accessible to all. For more information or to make a donation, contact Kim Nyren at 847-272-7250 or [knyren@nsymca.org](mailto:knyren@nsymca.org), or visit [www.nsymca.org](http://www.nsymca.org).