

THE PLAIN DEALER

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Philanthropy

YMCA Gets \$2 Million grant to promote community health

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The YMCA of Greater Cleveland has won a five-year, \$2 million federal grant to promote a healthier community, with a special emphasis on African-American and Latino residents.

Using money from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Y will join with Cleveland's recreation division and other community organizations to offer education, screening and prevention programs at 12 neighborhood recreation centers. The free screenings will target such conditions as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Barb Clint, director of community health and advocacy for the Y, said residents using the recreation centers will help determine what kind of activities are offered. An on-site Y staff member will work with rec center employees to present needed programs.

Participating centers are: Clark, Fairfax, Glenville, Gunning, Ken Johnson, Kovacic, Lonnie Burton, Stella Walsh, Sterling, Thurgood Marshall, Zelma George and Michael Zone.



Haley



Clint

Clint said the initiative, likely to begin early next year, will expand the Y's Clevelanders in Motion program, which promotes healthy eating and physical activity.

Glenn Haley, president and chief executive of the local Y, said he's excited by the opportunity to bring services to neighborhood residents regardless of whether they are Y members.

"One of my goals has been to take programs closer to where the people are," he said, adding that the broad collaboration of agencies will serve the community well.

Haley also said the Cleveland program dovetails with the Y's national Activate America effort.