



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

For Immediate Release

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Wilson-Gray YMCA receives \$10,000 in Grant Funding
Funds Will Support the YMCA Teen Incentive Program (Y-TIP)

Hartford, CT – The Wilson-Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center received a \$10,000 grant from Asylum Hill Congregational Church in support of The YMCA Teen Incentive Program (Y-TIP). Y-TIP is an innovative program that provides support to youth with a goal to improve academic success and increase engagement by helping teens develop the skills needed to make positive choices.

Y-TIP's short-term objectives are to change knowledge, skills, behaviors, and attitudes to enhance academic engagement and performance; and increase self-confidence, maturity, and ability to set and achieve personal, academic, and career goals. Long-term objectives are to encourage youth to pursue post-secondary education; secure employment; and become leaders in the community.

Y-TIP follows a 40-week academic calendar. From September through June, activities are conducted at least once per week at Wilson-Gray or at a Hartford-based school as part of an enrichment block. Y-TIP utilizes specialized curricula for each grade level in order to address the various needs of those particular youth.

"The Wilson-Gray Y works to fulfill the needs of the most vulnerable youth in the North End of Hartford through the Y-TIP program where they equip teens with educational support and workforce development opportunities. We are grateful to Asylum Hill Congregational Church for their continued partnership in the advancement of education and youth development providing opportunities for success through academic achievement, college preparedness, and service learning," said Harold Sparrow, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Hartford.

Asylum Hill Congregational Church's grant program funds programs that contribute to a healthy community, including housing, food, education and youth development, social services or community building. "The Y-TIP program consistently provides a positive experience for Hartford's youth, and we are

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proud to call the Wilson-Gray YMCA one of our partner agencies," said senior minister Rev. Erica Thompson.

During the 2018-19 program year, Y-TIP served over 140 youth.

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The YMCA of Greater Hartford:

Established in 1852, the YMCA of Greater Hartford is a charitable association open to all and committed to helping people develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind and body. This commitment is reinforced by our belief in living out universal values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. We will be the premier charitable organization, building lifelong success for all by advancing Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility. In 2019, the YMCA of Greater Hartford served 108,000 community members, and provided \$2.4 million in financial assistance so that everyone we serve could have access to life-saving swim lessons, life-changing summer camp, life-rebuilding cancer recovery programs, and so much more. Ghymca.org

About Asylum Hill Congregational Church:

Founded in 1865 and a member of the United Church of Christ, Asylum Hill Congregational Church (AHCC) is an energetic, urban church of approximately 1200 members. An inclusive congregation, open to and affirming of all God's people, AHCC strives to make our facilities available to community organizations and public forums as part of our commitment to inclusivity. We are not just a "Sunday worship church," we are a church that is pursuing its mission ... everyone, every day, and everywhere with boldness, passion, and tenacity. Ahcc.org