



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE HIRES DIRECTOR OF ADAPTIVE SERVICES

Fort Wayne, IN (May 7, 2015) – As part of the recently announced partnership between the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne and the AWS Foundation, the YMCA is pleased to announce the hiring of Lydia Morris as the Director of Adaptive Services. This newly created position funded by the AWS Foundation will provide research, support, and lead to the development of community-wide programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and other service providers. Lydia comes to the Y with a variety of experiences collaborating and training in the Special Populations Community. She will be a key resource for the local YMCA's in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties as well as out in the community.

She recently completed an AWS funded grant position with the Women's Bureau called Project CARE, a community wide program focused on people with disabilities and their caregivers promoting awareness to prevent sexual assault and survivor support. Lydia was previously a Mental Health Technician with Parkview Behavioral Health, and an Adolescent Behavior Counselor at Saint John Hospital in Anderson, Indiana. Lydia graduated from Purdue University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in Child Development and Family Services with a focus on At-Risk Youth and Family.

"At the Y we want to improve the quality of life for everyone in the community. This new position is another step in that direction," said Marty Pastura, President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne. "We are looking forward to developing more programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as we continue to fulfill our mission which makes the Y available to all", he added.

Each of the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne eight branches in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties naturally serves the disability community through memberships for group homes and collaborations with other service providers. Hiring the YMCA's Director of Adaptive Services will further expand the available recreational and social opportunities and positively impact more people. Lydia Morris, Director of Adaptive Services, can be reached at 260-755-4961 or by email at Lydia_Morris@fwymca.org.

About the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne

The YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne has long been committed to strengthening the greater Fort Wayne community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne serves more than 67,500 people across Allen, Wells and Whitley counties through six membership facilities, as well as two service branches and YMCA Camp Potawatomi. To learn more about the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne and how you and your family can get involved, visit fwymca.org or join the Y on Facebook.