

For Immediate Release

Contact:

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SAFETY, ASSURANCE AND ENRICHMENT FOUND IN THE Y'S AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

[Warren County, OH] – As another summer winds down and a new school year is on the horizon, Countryside YMCA wants to remind parents and caregivers that the Y's afterschool program is place where children can remain active, learning and engaged during their time out of school – a critical time for all school-age children. Each year, the Y works to provide engaging activities in a caring and safe environment after school, and this year will be no different.

"One in five children do not have someone to care for them after school, an essential time to help increase children's success in school," said Jenny Poling, Executive Director of Youth and Family at Countryside YMCA. "As an organization dedicated to youth development, we know how important it is that children have a safe and enriching environment for learning, both in and out of school. We are pleased to be able to provide this space to the children in our community, allowing their invaluable social, emotional, physical and academic growth to continue long after the school day ends."

Countryside YMCA's afterschool program launched in 1989 and during a typical year about 400 youth are enrolled. Countryside YMCA offers before and after school programs for families enrolled in several Warren County school districts including Lebanon City Schools, Little Miami School District, and Clinton Massie Schools. Financial assistance is available to ensure every child and teen has the opportunity to learn and grow at the Y.

Through a balanced approach to youth development, the program offers activities, mentorship and academic support, nurturing the potential of all participants throughout the school year.

All Countryside YMCA school age care locations follow Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) standards to help build a healthier future by encouraging healthy eating habits, limiting screen time and providing physical activity to keep every child healthy. A healthy breakfast and afternoon snack are provided for all youth enrolled and the Y implements the CATCH curriculum, a physical fitness curriculum to keep kids active. "Kids who are enrolled in our Lebanon location even get to use the Y's gyms and exergaming equipment," Poling added.

In order to help keep kids and staff healthy and safe throughout the upcoming school year all Countryside YMCA licensed childcare site will continue to follow CDC, state and local requirements and guidelines for COVID-19.

For more information and to sign up for the Y's afterschool program visit <https://countrysideymca.org/child-care/before-after-school-care/or> call 513 932 1424 127.

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About Countryside YMCA

Since 1978, Countryside YMCA has embodied the Christian principles that welcome everyone in an environment where people of all ages can achieve a balance of spirit, mind and body. Located on a beautiful 126-acre property, Countryside YMCA is one of the world's largest YMCAs offering eight pools, five gymnasiums, two indoor tracks, a rock climbing wall, a 13,000 square ft. cardio/ weight

room, the Arts Center, Stolle Center for active seniors, the Motion Zone for active youth, a wide range of exercise, sports, and creative expression classes, disc golf, summer day camp for kids, and scenic trails. To learn more, please visit www.countrysideymca.org.

Locations for Before and After School Care Managed by Countryside YMCA

Clinton Massie Location
Director Michelle Woods
2556 Lebanon Rd.
Clarksville, OH 45113
937 289 9081
Open 6:30 am to 6:00 pm
Monday - Friday

Lebanon Local Schools Location
Director Joe Gilmore
1618 Deerfield Rd.
Lebanon, OH 45036
513 228 2092
Open 6:30 am to 6:00 pm
Monday - Friday

Little Miami Local Schools Location
Director Stephanie Sizemore
6246 Turning Leaf Way
Maineville, OH 45039
Open 6:30 am to 6:00 pm
513 677 3702

Photo Captions

Dominic Bifro practices cup stacking in the fall of 2020 while attending the Before-and-After Care program at the Little Miami Learning Center which is managed through Countryside YMCA. All Countryside YMCA licensed childcare sites will continue to follow CDC, state and local requirements and guidelines for COVID-19 during the upcoming school year.

Jacalyn Sutherl colors during time spent at the Clinton Massie Before and After Care program in the fall of 2019. Countryside YMCA manages the school-age care program in the Clinton Massie school district.

Countryside YMCA teacher Allison Dane helps a student with homework during the 2020-21 school year. All Countryside YMCA licensed childcare sites will continue to follow CDC, state and local requirements and guidelines for COVID-19 during the upcoming school year.