



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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THE KOSCIUSKO COMMUNITY YMCA CELEBRATES THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FATHER'S DAY

Warsaw, IN – This year, the Kosciusko Community YMCA will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Father's Day. First celebrated in June 1910 at the Spokane YMCA in Washington, Father's Day is now recognized all over the world.

Father's Day was founded by Sonora Louis Smart Dodd, the daughter of a single father who served in the Civil War. On Mother's Day in 1909 Smart Dodd heard a sermon honoring mothers and wondered why there was no similar tribute for fathers. With the support of ministers in Spokane, Smart Dodd launched the first Father's Day celebration at the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. President Nixon signed Father's Day into law in 1972.

Today, the Y remains committed to strengthening families. The Kosciusko Community YMCA offers programs that foster understanding and companionship between children and their dads – and moms – such as Parent and Child swim and gymnastics classes, open gym and swim time and this Father's Day kids and their fathers can create special crafts in the YMCA Youth Center. Starting on June 11th activities in the Youth Center will include a Father's Day Paper Chain, Father's Day Plaque, World's Best Dad Puzzle and Sports People creations. See a June Youth Center schedule online at www.kcymca.org/events.html.

Admission to the YMCA on June 19th will be free for fathers and their children. For more information about the Kosciusko Community YMCA's family programming, visit www.kcymca.org or contact the YMCA at 574-269-9622.

The Kosciusko Community YMCA, a not for profit organization, provides community based programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all of Kosciusko County. All the efforts and offerings of the YMCA are guided by the core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Within our available resources, every effort will be made to accommodate all who wish to participate in YMCA programs and services. Supported in part through contributions to the Strong Kids Campaign, the YMCA provides membership and program assistance through need-based scholarships.

