

Hendricks donates building for YMCA

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BELOIT — Businesswoman and philanthropist Diane Hendricks will donate an 80,000 square foot building at the historic Ironworks complex for the relocation of the Stateline Family YMCA.

The donation is valued at \$4 million, according to a news release.

“This is great news,” said Stateline Family YMCA Executive Director Doug Britt. “This is incredible help and support.”

The Stateline Family YMCA is planning the move to the Ironworks complex, which formerly housed the Beloit Corporation. The new YMCA facility will be in the southern portion of the Ironworks complex.

The Stateline Family YMCA is in the midst of a fundraising campaign to pay for the construction at its new home. The goal is to raise \$7 million, and so far about \$3.5 million has been raised, Britt said.

“We’re doing face-to-face fundraising now and we will roll out a community campaign later this year and early in 2016,” he said.

Britt and the YMCA’s board of directors will proceed with plans for the new facility to open in early 2017. The architect chosen is Zimmerman Studios, and the general contractor is Corporate Contractors Incorporated (CCI), a Hendricks-owned firm.

The new YMCA facility will feature a warm water pool, lap pool and an indoor aquatic play area. More basketball courts and exercise rooms also will be added, along with the creation of an interactive space designed for families with child-care needs.

“Rob Gerbitz (CEO, Hendricks Commercial Properties) and his team started this process by collaborating with the YMCA and listening to local businesses and families, to learn how to fill a void in the community,” said Diane Hendricks. “This project is an extension of our continued commitment to be a part of downtown Beloit’s ongoing renaissance. The YMCA offers wonderful



Diane Hendricks

options for all people, including adult programs for cancer survivors, diabetes prevention, and Parkinson's disease programs. The Y has a proven track record of fostering healthy communities, and I believe this new facility and this downtown location will provide the highest level of quality and services for Beloit."

"We are grateful for Diane's generosity and commitment to our community and downtown," Britt said. "Serving families has always been at the heart of the Y. We provide opportunities for every family member to become healthier, build stronger bonds, achieve greater work and life balance, and be more engaged in the community."

He said the new YMCA facility will serve nearly 16,000 children and families annually.

"We are excited at all the possibilities this new YMCA will mean for our community," Britt said. "The YMCA provides a place where everyone in the community can connect to one another, pursue new interests, and learn to live healthier, happier and more confident lives. While this generous donation from Diane is an amazing start to our fundraising goals, we still need the help and support from the community to help push us to the finish line."

Once the new YMCA facility is complete, Hendricks Commercial Properties will take possession of the YMCA's current facility at 1865 S. Riverside Drive, Beloit.