



Media Contacts:

Catherine Claeys
Padilla Speer Beardsley
612-455-1719
cclaeys@psbpr.com

Ellen Cleary
YWCA of Minneapolis
612-215-4164
ecleary@ywcampis.org

For Immediate Release

Ultraviolet Pool Conversion at YWCA Healthier for Swimmers
Fewer chloramines improve water and air quality at Uptown location

MINNEAPOLIS – Aug. 19, 2008 – An ultraviolet pool conversion expected to create a healthier swimming environment is underway at the YWCA Uptown location. Part of a Greener, Greater Uptown YWCA renovation project, the pool conversion is one component of larger plans to lessen the carbon footprint of the facility and help create an even healthier gym environment.

More common in newer pools, an ultraviolet system helps reduce water irritants, provides supplemental disinfection and lessens the impact of chlorine on indoor air quality. The pool conversion to an ultraviolet system began Aug. 18.

The new ultraviolet purification system will decrease the amount of chloramines in the pool water and air, ensuring a cleaner and healthier pool environment for swimmers, lifeguards and staff. Chloramines cause irritation to eyes, skin and hair and in high levels can cause respiratory problems. Chloramine levels have been documented to drop by more than 70 percent with the use of UV filters.

The Uptown YWCA has 6,500 gym members and logs more than 1,000 individual visits every day.

INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- Sue Duoos, YWCA Director and Uptown General Manager
- Jason Burmeister, YWCA Aquatics Product Coordinator

About the YWCA of Minneapolis

The YWCA of Minneapolis is a nonprofit organization striving to empower women and girls and eliminate racism. The YWCA of Minneapolis has been empowering women and girls since 1891 and is a community leader in health and fitness. The YWCA of Minneapolis has approximately 20,000 members at all three health & fitness locations - Uptown YWCA, Downtown YWCA and Midtown YWCA.

###