

February 21, 2019

Press Release - For Immediate Release

From: Silver Bay YMCA

Silver Bay YMCA receives grant from International Paper Foundation in support of Teen Center

Silver Bay, NY: The Silver Bay YMCA Conference and Family Retreat Center recently received a \$5,000 grant award from the International Paper Foundation to support the Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga.

According to Steve Tamm, Chief Executive Officer of Silver Bay YMCA, the Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga serves teens, grades 6th-12th. "This program brings after school and weekend tutoring, as well as educational and recreational activities to teens that use the center without any fees. During the 2018 - 2019 school year, we served ~55% of the local school population, with monthly averages in excess of 990 unique student visits," said Tamm.

This program costs Silver Bay approximately \$152,000 per year and \$24,000 of the budget is paid directly to the town of Ticonderoga for the exclusive use of the 1st floor of the Ticonderoga Armory. Beyond the daily offerings, this program provides special events, including a "New Year's Eve Lock-In" which had approximately 60 teen participants this year and provides a safe and wholesome place for teens on an important night of the year where they may get caught up in unhealthy behavior. In November 2018 Silver Bay YMCA celebrated Thanksgiving with local teens with a lesson on proper food preparation followed by a family style dinner with teens and Silver Bay YMCA staff.

The Silver Bay YMCA teen center is also made available to other community groups at no cost for activities. Those groups and activities include; Senior Citizen recreational activities and community youth team sports training and practice.

"We are ever so pleased to partner with International Paper in providing safe and healthy opportunities to the teens of Ticonderoga to learn and recreate. When community partners such as International Paper make funds available, we are able to continue to operate and expand our transformative programs, which benefit the entire local community," stated Tamm.

The Silver Bay Teen Center is offered at no cost to the community and is 100% funded by generous donations. Please consider supporting our program through a tax deductible contribution. Please contact the Silver Bay YMCA Development Director, Nick Rama at 518.543.8510 to make a donation today.

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Note to the Editor:

Silver Bay YMCA was founded in 1902 and is located in Silver Bay, NY, just minutes south of Hague, NY. Its 700 acre campus along one mile of Lake George shoreline offers a wide breadth of programs for all ages. Silver Bay YMCA presently employs 45 full-time staff members with a seasonal staff of 200. Silver Bay YMCA is consistently ranked one of the top ten family reunion sites in the country and is on the National Register of Historic Places with the U.S. Department of the Interior.

As a mission based charity, Silver Bay YMCA offers outreach programs in addition to its core activities as a premier conference and family retreat center. Those activities include:

- Silver Bay YMCA Teen Center in Ticonderoga (Free access for local teens)
- Open Pathways (Access to Silver Bay YMCA for the underprivileged)
- Youth and Government Program (covering Queensbury to Ticonderoga)
- Cancer Respite Program (Free respite for local cancer patients)
- Military R and R Program (Free getaway for recently deployed veterans and their families)
- Brookside Trinity Ministry (Free respite and sabbatical getaways for clergy)
- Vacations Made Possible (Free getaways for local underprivileged families)

Silver Bay YMCA has also won many outstanding awards and has been featured in several local and national media, including:

- Best Resort (2015, 2017 & 2018) Adirondack Life Magazine
- Best on Lake George and Best Exceptional Amenities (2016) LakeGeorge.com
- Best Venue for Family Reunions (2014 - 2017) Unique Venues Magazine
- New York Times (Travel Section – September 2014)
- Better Homes and Gardens (May 2014)

MISSION: The mission of Silver Bay YMCA is to foster a lifelong sense of belonging, strengthen relationships, and nurture spirit, mind, and body for all.

DESIRED IMPACT: Because of Silver Bay YMCA, personal and family bonds are stronger. People are more connected, respectful, and caring and have the

confidence to develop to their fullest potential and impact the communities in which they live. They are inspired by the beauty of the landscape at Silver Bay and are better stewards of the environment.

www.silverbay.org

The International Paper Foundation is one of the ways International Paper strives to reach its vision to be among the most successful, sustainable and responsible companies in the world. Started in 1952, the foundation annually provides millions in grants to 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to address critical needs in the communities where its employees live and work. Funding priority is given to programs related to its signature causes: education, hunger, health & wellness, disaster relief, and initiatives that improve the planet.

For more information, visit ipgiving.com.