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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wayne County, H.Y.P.E. Athletics, Zaman International Build Partnership through Youth Recreation, Aid for Humanity

Dearborn Heights, MI – Wayne County EDGE, in partnership with H.Y.P.E. Athletics and Zaman International, will break ground on a 110,000 square foot youth recreation center in Dearborn Height Tuesday, November 30 at 2 pm. The state-of-the-art facility will serve as the first for H.Y.P.E., furthering the organization’s mission of providing youth with outlets and environments free from drugs and violence.

“No community in Wayne County has been immune to Michigan’s struggling economy,” stated Wayne County Executive Robert A. Ficano. “We’re confident this collaborative partnership and investment will not only develop, but instill the right skills, knowledge and abilities in our youth needed to carry our communities into the future.”

Wayne County will attribute nearly \$7 million through NSP funds to the development of the center.

The Wayne County H.Y.P.E. Recreation Center, operated by a partnership between Wayne County, Zaman International, and H.Y.P.E. Athletics, will include a number of community resources and amenities to help those in need. Planned recreation amenities include: five basketball and volleyball courts, indoor batting cages, a 7,000 square-foot weight room, and an indoor track. H.Y.P.E. Athletics has served thousands of Wayne County kids for years.

“HYPE Athletics, the Community and myself are grateful for the opportunity to extend our services to the many families within Wayne County,” stated Ali Sayed, president of H.Y.P.E. Athletics. “We’re most grateful to the tremendous support by Mr. Ficano and his administration, including the Economic Development Growth Engine (EDGE).”

The center will also host a computer resource center, vocational classrooms, senior wellness center, food bank, clothing resale shop, locker rooms, a health café and conference center.

“For the past 15 years, our Hope for Humanity programs have been designed to meet the basic needs of marginalized mothers, children and seniors,” added founding chair and president, Najah Bazy. “The collaboration allows us to look at the “whole person or family,” and work to rebuild the physical and social aspects necessary to move beyond poverty and marginalization.”

Expected participants include: Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, Dearborn Heights Mayor Dan Paletko, Najah Bazy, Founder/Executive Director of Zaman International, H.Y.P.E. President Ali Sayed, Dearborn City Council Member Tom Berry, and H.Y.P.E. Athletics youth participant Hassan Doghman.

The groundbreaking will take place at 2 pm on Tuesday, November 30, at Warrendale Park, located just west of Ann Arbor Trail on Warren in Dearborn Heights.

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