



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – AUGUST 2015**

**Contact:**

Mr. Ravenell Williams, IV  
CEO and President  
Plainfield YMCA  
(908)756-6060  
rwilliams@plainfielddy.org

### **The Plainfield YMCA enhances its STEM Program with PSE&G Grant**

The Plainfield YMCA is proud to announce that it was recently awarded a \$40,000 grant from the PSE&G Foundation for enhancements to their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program. The STEM Program is an integral part of both the summer camp and the after school programs run by the YMCA at seven locations in Plainfield and North Plainfield, including its headquarters.

The YMCA STEM programs are taught in partnership with 4H. Approximately 357 children participate in afterschool/summer camp programs which provide learning opportunities to grade school children K-6. The programs offer technology instruction, health and fitness activities and learn to swim/water safety classes.

In congratulating the Plainfield YMCA staff, Mr. Ravenell Williams, CEO and President of the YMCA stated that "the quality of the youth programs demonstrates how our STEM program touches the lives of youth in Plainfield and North Plainfield and how funders view us as a program to support."

PSE&G Foundation executive, Jennifer Coyne, recently toured the YMCA's main facilities at 518 Watchung Ave and was able to see first-hand the programs in place during the current summer camp session. The original grant request was increased from \$25,000 to \$40,000. Earlier this year, the PSEG Foundation announced a total of up to \$250,000 in grants would be awarded by the Foundation through its PSEG Science SPARK Partners funding program to afterschool, summer and youth development programs to develop new or enhance existing STEM educational opportunities for students.

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#### About The Plainfield YMCA:

The Plainfield YMCA is a community-based, 501 (c) (3) nonprofit which has been providing housing and services to the community for over 138 years. The Plainfield YMCA, located at 518 Watchung Ave, Plainfield NJ has been operating in the City of Plainfield and surrounding towns since 1877 and serves the community with several youth oriented and emergency shelter programs. It is the largest non-profit in Plainfield impacting more than 2,000 youth, teens and families by providing a variety of high quality programs focused on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

As the leading nonprofit committed to youth development, the Y has a long history of encouraging and supporting children in building literacy, improving academic engagement and performance, skill building, accessing higher education, and employment training.

For additional information on the Plainfield YMCA please visit our website at [www.plainfielddy.org](http://www.plainfielddy.org) or contact Ravenell Williams at (908)756-6060.