



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

March 5, 2008

Senator Richard Lugar
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-1401

Dear Senator Lugar:

On behalf of the Randolph County Community, thank you for your support of our YMCA's Child Care Initiative and securing \$140,000 in FY08 Federal Appropriations for our project. This letter is to respectfully request that our proposal be considered for \$1,000,000 in Federal Appropriations in the FY09 budget.

The purpose of the Randolph County YMCA's project is to build a new licensed child care facility for 93 children which will provide quality care, teach an accredited preschool curriculum which meets State of Indiana licensing standards while promoting a safe environment for children to grow. All children applying for the program have equal opportunity for acceptance. The cost of this project is 1,914,000.

The Child Care Initiative project will serve as a vital addition to the Randolph County economic and development initiatives by not only providing additional child care opportunities but also providing more jobs for the community. **The new facility will triple the number of children the YMCA can serve.**

In 2002, the YMCA received the "Business Leader of the Year" award from the Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce for our efforts in opening and operating a new Child Care facility in 2001. The Winchester Area Chamber of Commerce and the Randolph County Economic Development Foundation realize how vital it is to have quality child care to offer potential employers looking to bring their companies to Randolph County.

According to the latest statistics, Randolph County ranks 7th highest in the State of Indiana in unemployment. The lack of quality, affordable day care is one of the many contributing factors. The Randolph County community is in desperate need of expanded licensed child care opportunities. **Currently only 25% of our 4,164 children, ages birth to five, have access to licensed care in our county.**

Randolph County YMCA
1521 E. Washington St. • Winchester, IN 47394
Phone: 765-584-9622

Randolph County YMCA Chenoweth Childcare
700 Browne St. • Winchester, IN 47394
Phone: 765-584-0199

www.randolphcountyyymca.org

YMCA mission: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

The YMCA Child Care program has a continuous waiting list because the current facility opened in 2001, is too small to meet the ever increasing demand for quality child care. The YMCA child care fees are kept at an affordable rate through annual fundraising efforts to subsidize the fees. Our current YMCA Child Care program also participates in the State child care voucher program for low income families.

We look forward to partnering with you on this much needed project for Randolph County. I can be contacted at 765-584-9622 or at ceann@insightbb.com to discuss our project in further detail.

Sincerely,



Ceann Bales
Executive Director/CEO