



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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Summer Camp Develops Youth's Potential**

*Registration now open for day camp*

February 9, 2012 – Instead of spending the summer at home and in doors, the YMCA is encouraging parents to give their kids a chance to explore nature at the Y's day camp. YMCA campers gain new experiences, develop essential social skills and create lifelong friendships, while enjoying camp adventures along the way.

"Children and teens have camped at our Y for the past 12 years says Troy Pederson, YMCA Youth and Family Director. "When at day camp, kids are given new responsibilities and they learn independence. As a result, they become more confident, open to trying new things and grow as individuals and as part of a group."

As a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y works to help children and teens discover their full potential by providing opportunities to learn, grow and thrive amidst caring, supportive adults. According to camping experts at the YMCA, there are five reasons why children and teens should experience summer camp:

1. **FOR ADVENTURE:** Summer camp is all about fun adventures in the outdoors. Day camp has a new adventure for every child and teen. Visit [www.kandiyymca.org](http://www.kandiyymca.org) for details.
2. **FOR NEW EXPERIENCES:** Day camp is about learning outside of school, exploring and appreciating the outdoors, developing new skills, making friends and showing leadership.
3. **FOR PERSONAL GROWTH:** While being away from the routine back home, youth have a chance to develop confidence and independence by taking on new responsibilities and challenges.
4. **FOR NEW FRIENDSHIPS:** Amidst the fun of camp games, songs, swimming, gardening and talent shows, campers meet new friends.
5. **FOR MEMORIES:** Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that will give each camper memories that will last a lifetime.

The Kandiyohi County Area Family YMCA provides exciting and educational camp programming for children and teens along with their parents, including:

- Meet the Counselors – Thursday, May 31
- Day Camp Family Night – Wednesday, June 27

To ensure that every child and teen has the chance to go to camp, the Kandiyohi County YMCA Day Camp offers financial assistance to those in need.

For more information about day camp, visit [www.kandiymca.org](http://www.kandiymca.org) or contact Troy Pederson at (320) 222-9622 or [troy@kandiymca.org](mailto:troy@kandiymca.org)

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### ***About the Y***

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,687 Ys engage 21 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Anchored in more than 10,000 communities, the Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. [ymca.net](http://ymca.net)