

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren Bacigalupi, Greater Philadelphia YMCA

Contact Phone Number: 215-301-8183

## New Soccer Mini-Pitch Kicks Off at Roxborough YMCA Thanks to US Soccer Foundation and MetLife Foundation

**Roxborough, PA** — The Roxborough YMCA is inviting the public to help celebrate the opening of its new soccer mini-pitch, Wednesday, November 5, 2025, from 3:30 – 5:30pm. The mini-pitch was made possible through an in-kind donation from the US Soccer Foundation, with funding provided by MetLife Foundation.

The Roxborough YMCA will host a formal ribbon-cutting for the pitch, located on the north side of the YMCA property. The new pitch will sit behind the property's baseball field, replacing an outdoor basketball court. (Basketball will continue to be offered in the Y's gymnasium.)

The event will feature food, entertainment, giveaways, jerseys and more.

The Roxborough YMCA has a long history in the neighborhood, having recently celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This new mini-pitch hopes to further the Y's efforts, in partnership with the US Soccer Foundation and MetLife Foundation, to connect children to healthier living.

## **WHY IT MATTERS:**

- Studies show increased exercise is important for youth development with improved cardiovascular health, stronger bones, reduced body fat, and a decrease in aggression<sup>1</sup>.
- Participation in soccer can stimulate cognition for children, supercharging their mental development<sup>2</sup>.
- Soccer remains a great option for getting kids involved in sports. Not only is it the most-popular sport on Earth, it also benefits from a low-cost of entry<sup>3</sup>,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC7249792/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11066207/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.jerseywatch.com/blog/costs-of-youth-sports

minimal equipment requirements, and can readily be played when offered space.

"We're so grateful to both the US Soccer Foundation and MetLife for making this pitch possible," says **Erica Pfaff**, Executive Director of the Roxborough YMCA. "We know the positive impact soccer can make, helping kids stay active. This will be an important addition to our facility and our community. So, come on down, let's celebrate and kick-off this new era for the Roxborough YMCA."

## **ABOUT THE GREATER PHILADELPHIA YMCA:**

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits, strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Throughout the Delaware Valley, the Greater Philadelphia YMCA serves more than 200,000 individuals each year – regardless of age, income or background – across 16 service locations in Berks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Pike, Burlington and Camden counties. Coupled with 80+ childcare sites, 30+ day camps, and one overnight camp in the Poconos, the Y has extraordinary reach in connecting people to healthier lives. For more information, please call 215-963-3700 or visit philaymca.org.

Location of new mini-pitch:

