



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lauren Bacigalupi, Greater Philadelphia YMCA

Contact Phone Number: 215-301-8183

Free Soccer Jamboree Brings Community Together in Camden as World Cup 2026 Approaches

Camden, NJ — The Greater Philadelphia YMCA and the US Soccer Foundation invite the public to join their post-season fall jamboree at Whitman Park in Camden, NJ, Tuesday, November 25, 2025, from 3:30pm – 5:30pm. Community partners, including The Campbell's Company, Leap Academy and Better Tomorrows will also be in attendance. Guests will enjoy snacks, drinks, inflatables, music and giveaways to celebrate another year of the Soccer for Success program.

Attendance is open to the public, but registration is required. To register, visit <https://www.philaymca.org/events/soccer-success-fall-jamboree>.

Soccer for Success is a 12-week program designed by the U.S. Soccer Foundation to give youth in underserved communities access to innovative play spaces and evidence-based soccer programs that instill hope, foster well-being, and help youth achieve their fullest potential. Soccer for Success is a free program available to students enrolled at participating schools. The program is lead by certified coaches who receive training from the U.S. Soccer Foundation. The program goes beyond sports, and helps participants learn leadership and athletic skills, as well as employing social-emotional component.

THE BIG PICTURE:

- Soccer is now the 3rd most-played sport in the US, with more than 25% of children playing nationwide.¹
- Participation in soccer can stimulate cognition for children, supercharging their mental development².

¹ <https://www.forssoccer.com/insight/soccer-participation-in-the-united-states/>

² <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11066207/>

- Soccer is a great option for getting kids involved in sports. It's the most-popular sport on Earth and benefits from a low-cost of entry, minimal equipment requirements, and can readily be played when offered space.³
- FIFA's World Cup is coming to North America in 2026 and is expected to add more than \$17 billion to US GDP. The Northeast will play a key role, hosting 21 matches across Boston, Philadelphia, and New York/New Jersey, with the Final at MetLife Stadium. Philadelphia alone will host 6 matches, including a Round of 16 game on July 4.⁴

"We are very proud of the Soccer for Success program," says **Shaun Elliott**, President & CEO of the Greater Philadelphia YMCA. "We see the impact sports instruction can have on kids in so many areas. It not only makes them physically healthier, it strengthens them mentally, socially, and emotionally. And so we can't wait to celebrate this important work with our partners at the US Soccer Foundation, and open the rolls for next year's registrants."

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.

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

⁴ <https://www.fifa.com/en/tournaments/mens/worldcup/canadamexicousa2026>