

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fueling a Stronger, Healthier Future

Badger State Ethanol Pledges \$500,000 Toward YMCA Capital Campaign

MONROE, WI: Badger State Ethanol pledges a substantial commitment toward making Green County a stronger community.

In response to Green County Family YMCA's Building A Stronger Community Capital Campaign, Badger State Ethanol has pledged \$500,000 to the project. When Badger State Ethanol was first founded in May 2000, its two founders John Malchine and Gary Kramer believed strongly in the importance of supporting local communitywide efforts.

Erik Huschitt, CEO & General Manager of Badger State Ethanol remarked: "Since our inception, a pillar of Badger State Ethanol has been our commitment to supporting our community. Today, some twenty years later, we stand as committed as ever to continue to support this wonderful community."

Since its startup, Badger State Ethanol has used science and ingenuity to create corn-based products including over one billion gallons of ethanol produced to date, carbon dioxide certified for the food industry, as well as a number of other protein and co-products.

The Green County Family YMCA is in the midst of a \$30 million Capital Campaign that will revitalize its current facility, transforming it into a community hub, serving families across 40 zip codes. Huschitt remarked: "Our ability to help the YMCA fulfill their vision will provide opportunities for not only Monroe but for communities all throughout Southern Wisconsin. Our youth and community will be blessed with a state-of-the-art facility to meet all its changing needs."

The YMCA has been serving the citizens of Monroe and Green County since 1981 and offers more than 100 programs for everyone from toddlers to active older adults and seniors. Through the efforts of the Y's Building A Stronger Community Capital Campaign, the YMCA building will be renovated and enlarged to meet the ever-changing needs of YMCA patrons.

Trent Henning, Executive Director of the YMCA remarked: "On behalf of the YMCA, we would like to thank Erik Huschitt, the Badger State Ethanol Board of Directors, and all of the employees at Badger State Ethanol for supporting this project for the Green County community."

The YMCA's enhanced facility will include a combination of renovated and newly constructed spaces with the addition of 50,000 square feet. New spaces will include Childcare and Youth Development Centers, Healthy Living Center, Gymnastics Center, community kitchen, fitness studios, spaces for adults, youth and more.

Huschitt stated: "We commend the YMCA for their hard work and leadership for driving their vision and we know with their leadership; this investment is in good hands."

Henning stated: “Erik, and Badger State Ethanol have always understood how a thriving YMCA can make a positive impact in our community. Badger State Ethanol was the very first business to commit to this project during the silent phase of fundraising.”

The Building A Stronger Community Capital Campaign will ensure childcare and healthy living needs are met for generations to come. To learn more about the Campaign, or to contribute to the project, visit www.greencountymca.org/stronger