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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Nearly 750 Gather to Honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the YMCA's 28th Annual Community Celebration**

*One of Milwaukee's oldest institutions honored Dr. King's legacy by convening the community for reflection, inspiration, and deliberate conversation to help address the city's most critical issues*

Milwaukee, WI – January 21, 2025 – Yesterday, the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee brought together hundreds of community members, public officials, business and faith leaders, and nonprofit representatives to Potawatomi Casino Hotel to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The theme of this year's event focused on an excerpt from the Dr. King quote, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

"We're excited and thankful to continue with our long-standing tradition of celebrating Dr. King's legacy by bringing the Milwaukee community together to honor his life and recognize those who have followed in his commitment of service to others. Dr. King's work and his impact on society are immensely relevant to our mission of advocacy for social justice, improved education, health outcomes, and racial equity in the Milwaukee community," said Carrie Wall, President and CEO of the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee.

The program recognized the work of local non-profits dedicated to serving others, and featured uplifting messages from Governor Tony Evers, Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson, Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley, and a presentation from two student winners of the Youth Development Writing Contest, who wrote about the meaning and impact of Dr. King's legacy.

Fondy Food Center was announced as the recipient of the Healthy Living Award and Courage MKE was announced as the recipient of the Social Responsibility Award.

In addition, Froedtert & The Medical College of Wisconsin and Aurora Health Care were among the top health organizations that joined business leaders from Northwestern Mutual, Kohler Co., GE Healthcare, Potawatomi Casino Hotel, and other companies to connect, collaborate, and strengthen equity efforts across different sectors of the city.

### **About YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee**

For more than 165 years, the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee has strengthened the foundations of our community by "Putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all." There are three locations throughout the Milwaukee area, as well as YMCA Camp Minikani in Hubertus, along with over 80 program sites where we're committed to being advocates for healthy families and partnering with others to improve the greater good in Milwaukee County.

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