



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
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**For Immediate Release**  
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## **South Florida Teens explore college options during YMCA Spring College Tour to Washington, D.C. area**

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL - The YMCA of South Florida launched its YMCA Spring College Tour from the L.A. Lee YMCA in Fort Lauderdale on April 9. Forty-five Teens from middle schools and high schools in Broward and Miami-Dade counties who have a desire to attend and complete college were taken on the tour April 9-14 to the Washington, D.C. area.

The students visited 6 colleges in the Washington, D.C., area – Coppin State University, Morgan State University, George Washington University, University of the District of Columbia, Georgetown University and Howard University.

“The Y College tour gives teens an opportunity to see firsthand multiple school choices,” said Sheryl A. Woods, YMCA of South Florida CEO and President. “Each year the tour takes students to a different area of the country to tour five to six colleges. Some of the students are able to visit 15 or 20 different colleges through the program. Not many kids get to visit more than 2 or 3 colleges before choosing the one they want to attend. It’s invaluable exposure.”

In addition to acquainting themselves with institutions of higher learning, students are introduced to key college and university personnel, the registration process, financial assistance, and housing and employment information. They also learn about the college’s student population, academic emphasis, and extra-curricular activities. Teens get to participate in walking tours of the campus, and question-and-answer session with university personnel.

Thanks to the support of City National Bank, City of Lauderdale and Broward College, the YMCA is able to expose teens to post-secondary education options.

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### **About the YMCA of South Florida**

The Y is a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Every day, the Y works hard to build healthy, confident, connected and secure children, adults, families and communities through over 200 afterschool, preschool, special needs, sports, camp and youth programs, family centers, and senior health outreach sites. To learn more, visit [www.ymcaofsouthflorida.org](http://www.ymcaofsouthflorida.org), connect on Facebook or Twitter, or call a Y near you.