

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Y-USA Signs ePACT as Preferred Vendor for YMCAs across the U.S.

Vancouver, British Columbia – YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) has selected ePACT Network to be a Preferred Vendor for their YMCA members. ePACT, North America’s only emergency network connecting families, organizations and communities, provides secure anytime, anywhere access to critical data and communications needed for YMCAs running daily programs, or for Ys supporting their members in the event of a crisis, like a personal injury, facility evacuation, or lockdown situation.

As the national resource office that supports a membership of 2,700 YMCAs across the country, Y-USA proactively identifies and develops opportunities for value-added tools, resources, and processes that can benefit Y members. This includes selecting key vendors that provide greater efficiencies, operational enhancements, or support services to Ys across the U.S.

YMCAs employ tens of thousands of staff and manage hundreds of thousands of volunteers delivering programs to over 9 million youth and 13 million adult Americans each year. As part of their responsibilities, Ys must ensure they have the information and communications necessary to support these people and programs throughout a range of situations and requirements. This includes preparing for and responding to an emergency at a Y, identifying potential health issues impacting participants in programs, or addressing specific data requirements for legislative or industry licensing needs.

Ys collect a variety of data including member contact details in case a program is cancelled or a facility has a fire, medical conditions, past injuries, or other health concerns that could impact a person participating in activities like sports, endurance events, or yoga classes. In addition, data is collected about food allergies or religious/philosophical needs that could impact snacks or meals Ys can provide kids in camps or care programs, as well as waivers or consents related to program risks or codes of conduct.

Unfortunately, most YMCAs have relied on paper forms to collect and manage this critical information from their members, staff, and volunteers for decades. Y-USA has selected ePACT as its Preferred Vendor to replace these paper forms, providing a highly secure system that moves this data online, connects Ys directly to the families they serve, and provides a range of benefits to Y members.

ePACT benefits include time and cost savings over paper forms, better quality data shared directly from families, connection to families and their emergency contacts with the ability to send rapid email, text, and voice messaging to all, and enhanced data privacy and security reducing potential risks and liabilities.

“We support Ys coast-to-coast in the U.S. and are excited to now be working with the Y-USA to provide even greater benefits to their members,” states Christine Sommers, ePACT’s CEO and Co-Founder. “Our commitment to connecting communities, enhancing program efficiencies, and improving preparedness capabilities directly aligns with many of Y-USAs goals, so we’re thrilled to become a Preferred Vendor in the Y family.”

As a Preferred Vendor, ePACT will provide YMCA members with access to ePACT services, special pricing, and resources that help enhance the preparedness and response capabilities of Y programs supporting families across the U.S.

About YMCA of the USA

The YMCA of the USA (“the Y”) is one of the leading nonprofits in the United States, strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the U.S., 2,700 Ys engage 22 million men, women and children – regardless of age, income or background – to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve the nation’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. Anchored in more than 10,000 communities, the Y has the long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. For full details on Y goals, services and programs, visit www.ymca.net.

About ePACT Network Ltd.

ePACT is changing the way the world prepares for life’s emergencies. As your emergency network, ePACT better connects and protects your family, organization and community through any crisis. ePACT Network Ltd. is based in North Vancouver, British Columbia. The company was founded by Christine Sommers and Kirsten Koppang Telford in 2012 after speaking with survivors of the 2011 Japan earthquake and tsunami. The ePACT team is made up of emergency management specialists and web technology experts, committed to helping North American communities better prepare for and manage any crisis. For more information, visit www.epactnetwork.com.

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