



hartford region

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YW Nike Tykes Offers Free Preschool to Eligible Manchester Residents
Early Learning and Childcare Center Welcomes New Site Manager and Director

Manchester, CT – YWCA Hartford Region’s YW Nike Tykes Early Learning and Childcare Center in Manchester, CT is offering free preschool to eligible Manchester families. YW Nike Tykes offers high-quality full-day, year-round childcare at 255 Garden Grove Road in Manchester, CT.

Families enrolled in the free preschool program will receive transportation, meals and health screenings for their child. The preschool provides highly-qualified teachers who are committed to helping their child grow and learn. Space is limited; please call (860) 647-9325 for more information and qualification information.

YWCA has a long history of educating and caring for children in Manchester. YW Nike Tykes is committed to providing high-quality childcare, which begins with qualified staff. YWCA Hartford Region is pleased to announce Shelly Garow as the site manager at YW Nike Tykes. Garow has over 20 years experience working with children in the greater Hartford area. She has previously worked for the Boy Scouts and YMCA. Garow is very connected with the families at YW Nike Tykes and loves getting to know them. “I believe that children learn best when they feel loved and understood and healthy- it’s important to me that our program encourages them to be curious, to be physically active, and to be caring and compassionate little people,” Garow said.

Meredith Martineau was recently appointed at the Director of Early Learning at YWCA Hartford Region. Martineau joined YWCA Hartford Region in 2008 as a Head Teacher in the toddler room at West Hartford’s Elmwood Early Learning & Childcare Center. In 2011, she was promoted to Site Manager at East Hartford Early Learning & Childcare Center. In 2013, she became the organization’s first Instructional Leader. In her new role as the Director of Early Learning, Martineau oversees YWCA’s four Early Learning & Childcare Centers in East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester and West Hartford.

YWCA’s Early Learning & Childcare Centers serve nearly 300 families in the greater Hartford region, providing high-quality care for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. YWCA is helping children prepare for success in kindergarten and beyond by closing the achievement gap, while focusing on the values of diversity and respect for others.

YWCA's Early Learning & Childcare Programs in East Hartford, Hartford and West Hartford are NAYEC accredited. Spaces are available at all centers and registration is open. To learn more about our Early Learning & Childcare Centers please visit www.ywcahartford.org.

The free preschool program at YW Nike Tykes is provided in part by The Town of Manchester, Connecticut Office of Early Childhood and Preschool Development Grants.

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Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate of YWCA, a women's membership movement dedicated to **eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all**. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford area including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy and economic empowerment. For more information, visit www.ywcahartford.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)!