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THE Y IN CENTRAL MARYLAND
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February 7, 2025

(Announced January 2025)

Dear Colleagues,

2025 is off to a great start, and we're excited to welcome a few key hires to our senior leadership team:

- **Al Obayuwana** has joined us as the new **Executive Director of the Dancel Y in Ellicott City**. Al comes from Columbus, Ohio with more than 16 years of Y operations experience. He began his career as a Youth & Family Program Director at the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington and has served at both the YMCA of Treasure Valley in Boise, Idaho and the YMCA of Central Ohio, where he was a District Executive Director and later Vice President of Youth Development. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and has received numerous awards for his service and leadership. Al will temporarily report to **Dana Ashley** until we hire a Vice President of District Operations.
- **Reggie Melito**, currently Executive Director of the Y in Pasadena, will transition to the **Y in Catonsville**, where she will be their new **Swim Director**. Reggie will report to **Jessica Chiaramonte**.
- I'm pleased to introduce **Joshua Watkins** as the new **Executive Director of the Y in Pasadena**. Josh brings 12 years of experience leading mission-driven organizations in Connecticut. Most recently, he served as the Executive Director of a youth development organization in Norwalk, and previously led a non-profit in New Haven focused on food security, boosting its meal distribution by more than 25% in his first year. Josh is pursuing a Master of Arts in Nonprofit Management from Johns Hopkins University. He will also temporarily report to Dana until the new Vice President is hired.
- **Brooke Bartko** will join us on **February 10th** as our new **Executive Director of Swim**, leading our swim experience strategy across the association. She comes from Calvert County Parks & Recreation as their Aquatic Division Chief, where she managed operations, maintenance, and programming for that county's multiple aquatic facilities. Previously, Brooke oversaw beach and waterfront operations at Gunpowder Falls State Park for the Maryland Park Service and facilitated lifeguard certification training for Sertified. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Environmental Studies from St. Mary's College of Maryland. Brooke will report to **Becky DeFebo**.

A charitable, cause-driven organization working for community well-being.

The Y.™ For a better us.

[An updated Y Family Centers organizational chart can be found here for your reference.](#)

Please join me in welcoming Al, Josh, and Brooke!

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Derryck D. Fletcher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Derryck Fletcher
Chief Operating Officer
The Y in Central Maryland