



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Tajikistan Leaders Examine Youth Sports in Green Bay Wisconsin

U.S. and Tajikistan Counterparts Share Experience Through Open World Program

[September 19, 2011: Green Bay, Wis., U.S.A.] – Five Tajikistan youth sports leaders and one facilitator participating in the Open World Program will spend October 1-8, 2011 in the Green Bay community examining Youth Sports. Greater Green Bay YMCA is hosting the delegation for Open World. Managed by the independent Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress, Open World enables emerging Eurasian political and civic leaders to work with their U.S. counterparts and experience American-style democracy at the local level.

While in Green Bay, the delegates will meet with various youth development and youth sports organizations in addition to meetings with their YMCA host. Visits include touring Green Bay, Door County, Stevens Point and Fox Cities. A cultural exchange and sharing will take place through meetings arranged with experts from Bellin Sports Medicine (Kids for Running Program), WIAA (Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association), DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), Green Bay Parks and Recreation, Cornerstone Community Center and YMCA Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya for team building exercises, and more.

The visiting delegates are **Mr. Salimdzhon Rakhmatovich Akhmedov**, Deputy Director for Sports, Senior Coach of the National Youth Judo Team, Republican Sports Boarding School from Dushanbe City, Tajikistan; **Mr. Farkhod Kamolovich Akhmedzhanov**, President Tajikistan Federation of Hand-to-Hand Combat and Traditional Karate from Khujand, Sughd Region, Tajikistan; **Mr. Shukhart Odildzhonovich Gadoyev**, Deputy Director Sports School, Spiamen District from Nau, Sughd Region, Tajikistan; **Mr. Abdullobek Dzhurabekovich Khakkuliyev**, Director, Sports School and Coach, Children-Youth Sports School from Shkhristan, Sughd Region, Tajikistan; **Mr. Fukat Sadriddinovich Urunov**, Instructor, Dushanbe Center for Taekwondo & Kickboxing Development, from Dushanbe, Dushanbe City, Tajikistan and **Mr. Naim Azizullovich Avezov**, Tajikistan, accompanies them as a facilitator.

(-more-)

In Green Bay, the delegation is scheduled to:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Arrive, meet host families, potluck dinner and orientation at East Side YMCA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Touring local/Door County area, Green Bay Packers Game (TV)/time with host families

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

AM Panel and exchange with various YMCA staff experts

PM Wisconsin Youth Success Program presented by Lisa Schuetz, Activity Director
Meeting with politician (30th District Senator Dave Hansen)

Martial Arts Academy meetings

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

AM Fox Cities (Convention and Tourism Board) presented by Matt Tenhaken

PM Lunch and Shopping;
Green Bay Boys & Girls Club

Social Time (Guys Night Out: host dads, staff take in local music)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

AM Stevens Point (WIAA) presented by Dave Anderson, Executive Director

PM DARE presented by Officer John Gossage, Brown County Sheriff's Office
Farmers Market

YMCA Youth Sports at Riverview Park

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

AM Parks and Recreation, James Andersen, Youth Sports

PM Bellin Sports Medicine; Kids for Running Program, Jim Beversdorf, Trainer
Cornerstone Community Center

Farewell Reception and Potluck at East Side YMCA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

AM YMCA Camp U-Nah-Li-Ya, Team Building/High Ropes Course

PM Program Review and Evaluation Session

Friday Night Football or Host Family Time/Dinner Out/Last Minute Shopping

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

AM Delegation departs Green Bay

*****HOST FAMILIES ARE STILL NEEDED. Please contact Sara Wall 920.436.9577.*****

Homestays with local Green Bay host families will allow the delegates to experience American family life. They will also take part in several cultural and community activities, including attending local Farmers Market, local high school football, potluck dinner, dinning out, and shopping opportunities.

The Open World Leadership Center has awarded a grant to Greater Green Bay YMCA as host organization to administer this and similar exchanges in 2011.

The Open World Program is a unique, nonpartisan initiative of the U.S. Congress designed to build mutual understanding between the United States and Eurasia. Over 15,000 Open World participants have been hosted in all 50 U.S. states since the program's inception in 1999. Delegates range from members of parliament to mayors, from innovative nonprofit directors to experienced journalists, and from political party activists to regional administrators.

For more information, please contact Tom Wyckoff, Greater Green Bay YMCA, Center Executive 920.436.9601.

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About Open World: For more information on Open World, please visit <http://www.openworld.gov>.

About YMCA: The Y has been listening and responding to communities across the nation and their most critical needs for 160 years. Whether welcoming and connecting diverse populations or preventing chronic disease and building healthier communities, the Y brings families together, encourages good health and fosters connections through fitness, sports, fun and shared interests. Millions of youth, adults and families receive the support and services they need to achieve greater health and well-being. For more information, visit www.ymca.net or local information at www.greenbayymca.org