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Local children meet new friends, expand comfort zones at YMCA Camp Minikani Winter Camp

Thursday, Dec. 21, 2017 (Milwaukee) – From Dec. 27-30, about 65 children from ages 7 to 15 years old will meet friends and experience new activities, such as snow-shoeing, horse sledding and cross-country skiing, at YMCA Camp Minikani's Overnight Winter Camp.

"While most kids are normally inside between the holidays—breaking in new gifts and enjoying a break from school—we spend most of that time outside together tromping around in the snow and having a lot of fun," Summer Camp Director Peter Drews said.

The counselors, all of whom were once Minikani campers, will guide the experience for campers as they gain a sense of independence by being away from home for an extended period of time.

"We find that campers, especially returners, develop a sense of ownership at Winter Camp that fuels their confidence and expands comfort zones," Drews said.

In addition to a handful of adventures at Minikani, the group will also take a trip to Sunburst Ski Area in Kewaskum, Wisconsin, where they will snowboard, ski or snow-tube.

Campers and counselors will celebrate their last night with a "New Year's Eve Eve Eve" dance party, which includes a camper-created carnival and homemade ball drop.

For more information on YMCA Camp Minikani Winter Camp, please contact Executive Director Jon McLaren at 262-251-9080 or jmclaren@ymcamke.org.

About the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee

The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee is a powerful association of women, men and children of all ages and walks of life joined together by a shared vision to create a stronger, healthier Milwaukee where families of all incomes and backgrounds truly thrive. Supported by the generosity and vision of our benefactors, the Milwaukee Y offers solutions that reduce health issues that plague our community, such as chronic diseases and preventable injuries; provides safe places seven-days-a-week where kids can have fun, families can gather and seniors can build meaningful connections; serves as an access point for vital community needs, such as preventative health care and reliable, safe before- and after-school care; partners with families, schools and other non-profits to help kids grow into productive adults; and makes fitness fun and accessible for all. Comprising five locations throughout the Milwaukee area, as well as YMCA Camp Minikani on the shores of Lake Amy Belle in Hubertus, Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Y has been a part of the lives of the greater Milwaukee area's kids and families since 1858. For more information, visit www.ymcamke.org.

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