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YWCA of Queens Seniors Celebrate a Traditional Korean New Year

FLUSHING, New York (February 20, 2015) – To bring in the Lunar New Year, the YWCA of Queens' Center for Seniors held for its members on Wednesday, February 18th an on-site celebration lunch, which included an afternoon of eating, dancing, and playing games.

The event is just one example of the many ways the YWCA has been at the forefront of enhancing the quality of life for the immigrant seniors in the community.

The festivities were conducted in Korean and the lunch included traditional New Year foods such as sliced rice cakes and green onion pancakes. **“The Lunar New Year Celebration is an important event for our seniors,” said Director of Seniors Sung Noh. “We do our best to provide them with an experience that helps them feel connected to their culture and to one another.”**

After lunch, the seniors participated in a series of ice breakers and folk games led by Evergreen Choir Conductor Kate Kim. During the traditional Korean game of tuho, players competed to throw as many arrows as possible into a narrow wooden jar. **Executive Director Helen Kim said, “One of our strengths as an organization is the ability to provide these kinds of cultural events for our members. Immigrant seniors, especially those with language barriers, often face isolation. YW’s senior programs create a space for seniors to build relationships and feel emotionally and socially supported.”**

The final activity for the day was a raffle. Lucky winners received home appliances and goody bags. Everyone went home with an umbrella as a party favor and a day of wonderful memories.

The goal of the Center for Seniors at the YWCA of Queens is to provide services for the aging population with a particular focus on the segment that is faced with language barriers. To that end, the program frequently holds cultural events that are catered to its members, like the Lunar New Year Celebration.

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About YWCA of Queens

The YWCA of Queens, founded in 1978, is a multi-tiered community organization with a wide range of education, career services, home health, and social services programs located at the center of one of the most diverse communities in the country. The YWCA of Queens' mission is to eliminate racism and empower women through education and advocacy. Visit www.ywcaqueens.org for more information.

for every woman