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Contact:

Stacy McKelvey
Director of Development
(718) 353-4553 ext. 25
stacymckelvey@ywcaqueens.org

YWCA of Queens Hosts Visiting Dignitaries from the YWCA of China

FLUSHING, New York (October 22nd, 2014) –The YWCA of Queens, a leading not-for-profit community organization, **hosted visiting dignitaries President Jin Wei and General Secretary Yang Mingming from YWCA of China escorted by World YWCA UN Representative Liz Nash** on Tuesday, October 22nd, 2014, to discuss and learn about the unique ways YWCAs across the globe are facilitating meaningful change in their communities. President Wei and General Secretary Mingming are visiting New York to participate in the **YWCA World Service Council’s 94th annual meeting on Thursday, October 23rd 2014** where they will share with leaders from YWCA World and YWCA USA their experiences organizing women empowerment projects in China.

During their visit to the YWCA, President Wei and General Secretary Mingming joined Asian American seniors from the Y Evergreen School—YWCA’s senior enrichment program—for their weekly luncheon followed by yoga and choir practice. The President and General Secretary jumped right in to the yoga lesson, joining Y Evergreen members in the healthy practice of controlled stretching. **Y Evergreen participant Ok Ja Park stated, “It is such a meaningful event that we were visited by the delegates from the YWCA of China. I am excited at the prospect of future collaboration between the YWCA of Queens and the YWCA of China.”** The need for more resources to engage seniors in recreational, educational, and social enrichment opportunities was one of the issues the YWCA of Queens and the YWCA of China shared.

World YWCA Un Representative Liz Nash commented, “It’s great to see the incredible diversity of the YWCA movement. Women from around the world supporting one another!” YWCA of Queens and YWCA of China discussed ways the two organizations could collaborate in the future through exchange programs and student video conferences to promote global solidarity. **Education & Career Services Director commented, “At the YWCA of Queens we support both the immediate goals and long-term success of our clients in an increasingly globalized and interconnected world. Exchange programs, email correspondences, and video conferences will not only broaden our clients’ knowledge of other cultures, ways of life and work, and education systems, but will help all of us to sharpen critical skills in understanding and thriving in diverse environments. And we hope the same will be true for our counterparts in China.”**

President Wei shared her experiences growing up in the countryside during the “Cultural Revolution”. After graduation from University, she started her career as a teacher in a teacher’s college. Jin Wei was recruited by the YWCA/YMCA in 1984 as a trainee and was elected as the national YWCA President at the 2012 YWCA National Convention. **During her 30 years of service at the YW, she has dedicated herself to the empowerment of women through advocacy efforts around the rights and welfare of women and children in China and the development of young women leadership.**

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About YWCA of Queens

Founded in 1978, the YWCA of Queens is a multi-tiered community organization with a mission to eliminate racism and empower women. Located in the center of one of the most diverse communities in the country, the YWCA of Queens tailors its services to meet the specific needs of individuals and families in the communities through programs for education and economic self-sufficiency.

About YWCA of China

Introduced into China in 1890, the YWCA of China is a Christian rooted, women-oriented social organization that actively works in ten cities—Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Wuhan, Chengdu, Nanjing, Xi'an, Hangzhou, Xiamen—and is invested in responding to the developmental needs of women and children of vulnerable groups, working for empowerment and leadership development of young girls, and overcoming global issues that hinders the sustainable development of women and the community.

About YWCA World Service Council

The YWCA World Service Council is comprised of women with a global vision who care about our changing world and champion the work of the YWCA USA and World YWCA in their commitment to dignity, freedom, justice and peace. Their focus is on providing funds and volunteers for the YWCA World and YWCA USA and raising awareness of international issues affecting women and girls.

for every woman

