



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

James L. Seward

## Seward Announces Funding For Healthier Kids

JAMES L. SEWARD February 1, 2010

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ONEONTA, 01/29/10 – Standing on a newly refurbished gymnasium floor, state Senator James L. Seward (R/C/I-Oneonta) today announced that the 2009-2010 state budget includes at his request, a \$30,000 senate grant toward facility improvements at the Oneonta Family YMCA.

**“The senate funding will help the Oneonta Family YMCA make vital facility upgrades that serve all community members, especially our young people,”** said Senator Seward. **“With a growing number of health problems affecting our youth, it is critical that we maintain strong health-oriented**

**programs like those offered at the YMCA.”**

Seward made the announcement during the YMCA’s open house which attracted hundreds of community members and included fitness assessments, yoga classes, gymnastic demonstrations and special kid-friendly events.

“The Oneonta Family YMCA is very grateful to Senator Seward for securing funding during these tough economic times,” said Frank Russo, executive director of the Oneonta Family YMCA. “With Senator Seward’s continued support of several gymnasium improvement projects the YMCA has positioned itself to offer programs focused on fighting youth obesity.”

The Oneonta YMCA, in existence for more than 130 years, will utilize the senate funding for upgrades to the gymnasium floor and roof repairs. Past funding awards obtained by Senator Seward have helped purchase new sports equipment including the recently installed rock climbing wall.

**“The Oneonta YMCA is a proven community leader, I am proud to help them continue their mission of building strong kids, strong families and strong communities,”** Seward concluded.