



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Kroc Center hosts neighborhood event**

The Salvation Army Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center will host an informative “meet and greet” event for Kroc Center neighborhoods and surrounding communities acquainting area residents with the center’s amenities, mission, membership pricing, proposed program offerings, worship schedule and events, and rental opportunities.

“Popsicles in the Park,” hosted by staff members of the Kroc Center will be held Wednesday, September 9 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm at Keith Park, located just north of the Kroc Center facility. **Popsicles, fun activities and prize giveaways will be offered.**

“This event is one of a series of significant steps we are taking to provide up-to-date information to many of the local area residents who will be utilizing this world-class facility said Kroc Center Marketing Director, Molly Skold. “We are very excited and honored to be a part of this neighborhood. This event will help answer questions people have about our facility.”

Crews inside the 122,000 square-foot facility, located in historic South Omaha on Y Street between 27<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Streets, are currently painting, hanging fixtures, preparing the grounds for landscaping and gearing up for the final stages of the building process.

The construction team of more than 100 workers plans to have the building completed by early November when the center will host a series of dedicatory events and open houses. Beginning November 16<sup>th</sup>, the Kroc Center will be open to new members **during selected hours** of operation. A Grand Opening Celebration is scheduled for the weekend of January 8 – 10, 2010, when the center’s full programming schedule begins.

Key features of this world-class center include a 3-gymnasium complex, aquatic center with zero-depth entry recreation pool, lazy stream, slide and a six-lane, 25-yard competition pool, state-of-the-art fitness center, education center, learning center, 600-seat assembly hall, 400-seat fellowship hall, chapel, outdoor festival plaza and stage, athletic fields and recreation areas as well as additional gathering spaces.

The Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center was made possible by a \$60 million gift from Joan B. Kroc, widow of McDonald's CEO Ray Kroc, and a \$15 million local matching endowment campaign headed up by Heritage Services. The community center, in keeping with the mission of The Salvation Army, will provide programs and service designed to encourage positive, life-changing experiences for children and adults, strengthen families, and enrich the lives of seniors.

For more information about Omaha's Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, please visit the Web site at [www.omahakroc.org](http://www.omahakroc.org) or call **Molly Skold**, Kroc Center Marketing Director at (402) 212-3644.

For more information about The Salvation Army, please contact Susan Eustice, Divisional Director of Public Relations & Communications, (402) 898-5908.

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