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For Immediate Release

**Suddes Partners Helps Secure \$10 Million Lead Gift
for Valparaiso Family YMCA**

ATLANTA – December 12, 2006 – Suddes Partners, a leading fundraising and consulting firm for non-profits, announced today that it has helped the Valparaiso (Indiana) Family YMCA secure a cash pledge of \$7.5 million. This lead gift will help the Valparaiso Family YMCA achieve its vision of building a new family facility. The gift is in addition to a donation of approximately 12 acres of land and site development work, valued at \$2.5 million.

“Securing a lead gift of this size was a crucial first step in kicking off the leadership phase of our capital campaign,” said Bob Wanek, CEO of the Valparaiso Family YMCA.

The Valparaiso Family YMCA’s current downtown facility has gone through several additions and renovations over the past 50 years. After extensive study, the YMCA’s Capital Expansion Task Force concluded that building a new facility was the best option to sustain and improve services to the community. Suddes Partners was engaged earlier this year to help secure the estimated \$15 million it would take to build the new state-of-the-art facility.

“Suddes Partners has played a key role in our development efforts from the very beginning,” said Wanek. “The Campaign Feasibility Assessment clearly defined the path it would take to achieve an ambitious \$15 million campaign. After the assessment, we worked with the firm’s team to design multiple scenarios while we aggressively sought a major partner to help us achieve our ultimate vision.”

The new YMCA will be a leading anchor at Cumberland Crossing, a new, village-style complex that is planned for a 15-acre site located in Valparaiso, Indiana.

“Beginning with the Feasibility Assessment, the entire process and strategy were designed to maximize results and minimize the risks for the Y,” explained Wade Hughes, Executive Vice President of Suddes Partners. “Now that we have a key component in place, people are excited and energized, and the community is giving as never before.”

“We are thrilled with Suddes Partners and the results we have received to date,” commented the YMCA’s Wanek. “Its professionals provide the whole package—strategic planning, campaign management expertise, hands-on solicitation assistance, and marketing support.”

“Through the generosity of a local family and the involvement and guidance of Suddes Partners, a goal that was previously seen as unattainable just six months ago is now within our reach,” said Karen Vogelsang, Capital Development Committee Chair for the Valparaiso Family YMCA.

About Suddes Partners

Suddes Partners is the leading fundraising consulting firm for “emerging” non-profits—organizations that have yet to reach their full funding potential. By working side by side with clients from the planning stage through capital campaigns and beyond, Suddes is able to help clients maximize their level of funding. Suddes continues to provide passionate, professional consulting for non-profits with such comprehensive service offerings as strategic visioning and planning, campaign feasibility assessments, capital and endowment campaign execution and integrated fundraising. For more information, visit www.suddespartners.com.

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