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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Rapid City YMCA Announces New Hires**

*Brendan Murphy and Hope Schaefer join the YMCA team in March, 2025.*

Photos attached: Brendan Murphy & Hope Schaefer

**RAPID CITY, SD March 17, 2025** – The Rapid City YMCA is excited to announce two recent staff hires for March, 2025.

**Brendan Murphy** joins the Y as **Fitness Experience Director**. Brendan is a retired Active Guard Reserve (AGR) lieutenant colonel from the SD Army National Guard (SDARNG) with more than 21 years of service. Before joining the SDARNG, he served 5 years as an active-duty Air Force intelligence officer at Ellsworth AFB. He holds double Masters degrees in Aviation Management and Environmental Management. Brendan also serves as the head boys tennis coach for St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City. He and wife, Jonette have one son, Mason. Keep an eye on new programs and wellness initiatives coming your way this Summer.

**Hope Schaefer** has joined the YMCA of Rapid City as **Aquatics Director** and brings 14 years of experience with the YMCA in aquatics programming and summer camp. She relocated to the Black Hills from the Milwaukee, WI area and is excited to connect with our community. Hope is passionate in helping those with limited resources about safety around water, especially children with special needs. Keep a look out for special needs swim programming coming soon.

Please join us in welcoming Brendan and Hope to the YMCA of Rapid City. For more information on how you can live a healthy, active life contact the Y at 605-718-9622 and visit our Group Exercise schedules at <https://tinyurl.com/arahtenr> for class days/times.

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### **About the YMCA of Rapid City**

Driven by its founding mission, the YMCA of Rapid City has served as a leading nonprofit committed to strengthening community for more than 76 years. The Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they're from, by ensuring access to resources, relationships and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive. By bringing together people from different backgrounds, perspectives and generations, the Y's goal is to improve overall health and well-being, ignite youth empowerment and demonstrate the importance of connections in and across 10,000 communities nationwide. Learn more at [rcymca.org](http://rcymca.org).