



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Hamilton Area YMCA joining forces with Central Jersey Rebels and Mercer United FC to create Start Here, Stay Here program for youth sports**

*Hamilton, NJ – February 17, 2021* – The Hamilton Area YMCA recently announced their Start Here, Stay Here program in partnership with the Central Jersey Rebels and Mercer United FC. The partnership between the Hamilton Area YMCA and Central Jersey Rebels and Mercer United FC will provide expanded opportunities to the members of the Y.

Well known for its role in youth sports, the YMCA has long been the jumping off point for many children to learn a love of sports like baseball and soccer. Participating in sports at the Y is about building a healthy, active and contributing member of the community from the inside out and now, we have like-minded partners to help in player development, all the way through high school.

Our partners recognize that the benefits sports are far greater than just physical health. Sports help kids gain the confidence that comes from learning a new skill, they gaining a sense of belonging, and build the positive relationships that lead to good sportsmanship and teamwork.

“We could not be more thrilled to launch the Start Here, Stay Here program with the Rebels and Mercer United, they have proven to be stellar partners and we’re excited about the future. This opportunity to provide kids with the ability to start here and learn the basics and hone their skills by staying through high school is really exciting.” said VP of Branch Operations Ryan Young.

Programs like T-ball (ages 3 – 6 co-ed) and Soccer (ages 3- 9 co-ed) are led by a YMCA trainer with the support of the Central Jersey Rebels and Mercer United FC Teams, Coaches and Players. As kids grow older, our partners Central Jersey Rebels and Mercer United FC will help kids further develop their game and play at a competitive level through high school by trying out for their teams.

For more information please visit: <http://www.hamiltonymca.org/programs/recreational-sports>

**HAMILTON AREA YMCA**

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*About Central Jersey Rebels:*

*The Central Jersey Rebels is a travel baseball organization located in Mercer County NJ. They are an organization that prides themselves on work ethic. <https://www.facebook.com/Central-Jersey-Rebels-Baseball-722613974600202/>*

*About Mercer United FC:*

*Mercer United FC is a volunteer-driven 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has been providing Hamilton area boys and girls with a quality soccer experience for more than 40 years. Founded by soccer players and designed for soccer players willing to work hard to become students of the game and lifelong players. Mercer United FC has created a competitive travel soccer program that prepares players for high school, college and most importantly life and we do it within a reasonable budget. <https://www.mercerunitedfc.com>*

*About the Hamilton Area YMCA:*

*Established in 1951, the Hamilton Area YMCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit community organization that promotes youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Our two branches play host to a variety of programs designed to nurture the potential of young people, improve our health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back to the community and support our neighbors. For more information about the Hamilton Area YMCA and the programs we offer, visit [www.hamiltonymca.org](http://www.hamiltonymca.org).*

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