



Charles R. Yates Jr.

The YMCA of Metropolitan Atlanta is pleased to announce the election of Charles R. Yates Jr. as Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Directors. Charlie joins other outstanding community leaders who have served the organization since 1858.

He has been a member of the Metro board since 2000, currently serves as vice chairman and is a member of the executive, finance and board development committees. Charlie is vice chair of the YMCA's current \$84 million development campaign and was a four-time Y-CEO Heritage Invitational Golf Tournament co-chair.

Charlie is executive vice president, director of business development, of Zurich, a global insurance-based financial services firm. Prior to joining Zurich, he was a principal at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Charlie continues the family tradition of giving back to the community through the Y and other civic organizations. His father, Charles Yates, served as board chairman for the Metro Atlanta YMCA in 1959 and 1960. Charlie's wife, Mary, is the immediate past board chair of Atlanta-based Families First.

Charlie's community service includes presidency of The Atlanta Opera and leadership of its recent financial turn around, toward which he personally raised more than \$2 million. In recognition of this effort and other fund-raising work, he was selected as 2008 Volunteer Fundraiser of the Year by the Greater Atlanta Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

In addition, Charlie is a trustee for The Sara Giles Moore Foundation, a member of the Atlanta committee for the Robert Tyre Jones Jr. Scholarship at Emory University, and serves on the advisory board at Washington & Lee University's Williams School. He is the past chair for the Regional Leadership Foundation, an Atlanta-based organization working to solve local problems like air quality, water and transportation by bringing together government, businesses and community interests.

A native Atlantan, Charlie graduated from The Westminster Schools and Washington & Lee University. He and Mary have two children. Charlie III is in his second year at Washington & Lee University Law School. Sarah is a Jefferson Scholar attending the University of Virginia.

Charlie's term as the Metro Atlanta YMCA board chairman begins in January 2009. "I'm proud to be associated with one of Atlanta's premier, charitable organizations," he says. "I grew up in the Atlanta YMCA, and it had a major impact on my life. Serving on the board, however, I see how the institution has changed. Today's YMCA touches so many parts of our community – geographically, demographically and programmatically.

"Through YMCA programs like youth sports, summer camp and child care, young people find encouragement, guidance and academic support as they develop self-confidence, lifelong values and positive attitudes about physical activity. The Y truly is the place where everyone can find a sense of belonging and community connection, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead."