

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Dec. 17, 2012

## **Olympic field hockey player Rachel Dawson to visit two South Jersey YMCA sites on behalf of U.S. Olympic Committee's Team for Tomorrow**

Two-time Olympic field hockey player and South Jersey native, Rachel Dawson, recently represented Team USA at the London 2012 Olympic Games, and now, she's giving back through the United States Olympic Committee's Team for Tomorrow program. As a Team for Tomorrow Athlete Ambassador, Dawson will visit **Delran Intermediate School – an afterschool site for the YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties – on Wednesday, Dec. 19, and the Mt. Laurel YMCA on Thursday, Dec. 20.**

On Wednesday, Dec 19 at Delran Intermediate School (20 Creek Rd. in Delran), Dawson will share her personal story with young people and conduct a field hockey demonstration. USA Field Hockey's FUNdamental Field Hockey program will donate equipment to the YMCA so that hundreds of boys and girls can try the sport moving forward. On Thursday, Dec 20 at the Mt. Laurel YMCA (59 Centerton Rd. in Mt. Laurel), Dawson will once again share her personal story and exercise with the children. Both events will conclude with autographs and photos.

"We are thrilled that Rachel is coming to our YMCA locations to share her experience as an Olympian, get children excited about field hockey and living an active and healthy lifestyle," said Tim Kerrihard, President & CEO, YMCA of Burlington and Camden Counties.

Wednesday's activities, which will begin at 4 p.m. at Delran Intermediate School are reserved for members currently enrolled in the YMCA's afterschool program, while Thursday's activities at the Mt. Laurel YMCA are open to the public and begin at 6 p.m. Both sessions are open to the media and Dawson will be available for interviews at the conclusion of each program.

The USOC launched Team for Tomorrow in 2008 in partnership with U.S. Olympians and Paralympians to provide a vehicle through which U.S. athletes can offer their assistance and support to those in need around the world, as well as a means to continue spreading the Olympic Values of excellence, friendship and respect. Through this initiative, U.S. athletes offer assistance and support in the form of donations, volunteerism, disaster recovery support, advocacy and other contributions to communities.

These visits mark Dawson's second and third activations as a Team for Tomorrow Athlete Ambassador. On May 29, she visited and spoke to children at the South Bay Family YMCA in Chula Vista, Calif.

For more information on the U.S. Olympic Committee's Team for Tomorrow program, visit [TeamUSA.org](http://TeamUSA.org).

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<b>WHAT</b>	Team for Tomorrow presentation and field hockey demonstration
<b>WHO</b>	<a href="#">Rachel Dawson</a> – 2008 and 2012 Olympic field hockey player
<b>WHEN &amp; WHERE</b>	Wednesday, Dec. 19 – program begins at 4 p.m. Delran Intermediate School (20 Creek Rd.; Delran, NJ 08075)  Thursday, Dec. 20 – program begins at 6 p.m. Mt. Laurel YMCA (59 Centerton Rd.; Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054) <i>*open to the public</i>
<b>CONTACTS</b>	For onsite questions, email <a href="mailto:pam@thomasboyd.com">pam@thomasboyd.com</a> .  For general inquiries on Team for Tomorrow, email <a href="mailto:vanessa.virbitsky@usoc.org">vanessa.virbitsky@usoc.org</a> .