



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# LIVING OUR CAUSE

## 2017

Benefits to the Community  
YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne



## **OUR CAUSE**

**We know that lasting personal and social change comes about when we all work together.**

**That's why at the Y, strengthening community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.**





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AND BRANCH BOARDS

Smiling faces from counselors and their campers who made lifelong friends, developed teamwork skills and built character among the 550 YMCA Camp Potawatami resident campers.





**Martin L. Pastura**, President and CEO  
**Angela M. Hughes**, Board Chair

**Dear Friends:**

Because of faithful supporters like you, during the past year, the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne made tremendous strides toward improving the quality of life for people living in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties. People of all ages, ethnicities and abilities are making connections in YMCA branches and programs – improving their health, growing as individuals, and giving back and serving in our community.

Our cause is a simple one: to strengthen the foundation of our community. For 159 years we have been meeting the needs of local neighborhoods in order to improve the quality of life for the communities we serve. We live out our cause by focusing on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

**BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY** allows us to share the impact the Y has made on you, your loved ones and your neighbors over the past year. More than dollars and statistics, we know our success is measured by the number of people we influence each year.

Join us in celebrating how the community benefits from the Y movement. When we harness our collective strength, we all move forward. Our deepest gratitude goes out to our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, hard-working staff, enthusiastic partners, and committed members and participants – you are what the Y is all about. Together we are making a positive difference.

**Martin L. Pastura**  
 President and CEO

**Angela M. Hughes**  
 Board Chair

**OUR REACH**



**MEMBERSHIP BRANCHES**  
 in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties



**RESIDENT CAMP**



**SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE SITES**



**BRANCH** specializing in crisis and intervention services



**BRANCH** specializing in youth care and enrichment services

**131,487**



**YOUTH AND ADULTS** engaged with the Y through programs and facility memberships

**OUR CAUSE**



**1,882**

**VOLUNTEERS** contributed



**31,450**

**PEOPLE** found a place to belong at the Y because of financial assistance made available through the YMCA Annual Campaign



**125**

**DIFFERENT SITES** offered community programs



**1,768**

**INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE DONORS** gave back to their neighbors by donating to the Y



# A YEAR IN REVIEW

## FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



**42,980**

**TOTAL YOUTH SERVED** through programs and memberships



**3,604**

**CHILDREN** learned valuable social and academic skills in a fun, safe and secure environment at YMCA afterschool programs



**3,248**

**YOUTH AND TEENS** experienced the thrill of nature, built character and made friends at YMCA Camp Potawatami through summer resident camp and outdoor education



**1,728**

**CAMPERS** built self-confidence, independence and creativity at seven YMCA summer day camps



**3,683**

**3RD-5TH GRADERS** experienced STEM learning concepts through Active Science with Jaylon Smith, afterschool care and summer day camp programs



## FOR HEALTHY LIVING



**1,067**

**PEOPLE** acquired lifesaving skills through CPR, First Aid and AED training



**246**

**COMPANIES** engaged in YMCA wellness programs and corporate memberships to reduce health care costs and implement workplace practices that increase productivity and job satisfaction



**537**

**PEOPLE** reduced their risk of developing a chronic illness by enrolling in our disease prevention programs



## FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



**2,605,912**

**DOLLARS** awarded in membership and program subsidies to deserving neighbors as part of our commitment to make the Y available to ALL



**1,187**

**STUDENTS AT-RISK** received tools to be successful in school; 1,068 subsequently avoided the juvenile justice system



**2,535**

**FREE MEALS** addressed youth hunger in conjunction with Community Harvest Food Bank, while also building positive relationships with local police through enrichment activities



**41**

**STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS** served on medical and service mission trips, which provided health care and human services to people without resources



## AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE: YMCA CHILDCARE SERVICES

As the largest child care provider in the region, we delivered impactful school age enrichment and summer day camp programs to kids in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties last year. Since we invest in youth, our curriculum exceeds traditional daycare and includes activities that focus on the whole child – spirit, mind, and body. We infuse kids with the Y’s core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility, model behaviors that lead to positive relationships, emphasize wellness and education achievement – all which lead to a better future.

### CHILDREN IN NEED

Juvenile crime and victimization peak in the hours after school, yet 1 in 5 kids are on their own during these hours – plus, kids who aren’t in afterschool programs go to school less frequently which reduces the likelihood of advancing to the next grade.

33.9% of Indiana children ages 10-17 are overweight or obese. Studies show students in afterschool programs are more physically fit.

Source: Afterschool Alliance, May 2016

### ADDRESSING CHILDREN'S NEEDS

- More than 3,630 school age children were loved and nurtured at afterschool and summer day camp programs.
- 538 youth ages 2-18 ate healthy snacks and engaged in fun, physical activities with Y staff who travel to underserved neighborhoods during the summer with Y on the Fly.
- 40,323 hours of reading and 131,500 nutritious snacks fed youth in after school care programs.
- 966 students had a wholesome place to go after school with a free membership for 7th graders.
- 299 children and their caregivers prepared for kindergarten success in Y Early Learning Centers.







*"THE Y IS TRULY A  
PLACE THAT CARES  
FOR FAMILY, NO  
MATTER WHAT  
THE FAMILY  
LOOKS LIKE."  
— YMCA MEMBER*

# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT NURTURING POTENTIAL



# EMPOWERING PEOPLE: THE Y

Being healthy is about more than just being physically active; it's a balance between spirit, mind and body. We inspire change by embracing all three of these human dimensions. With a mission for everyone, we promote healthy living through programs that prevent chronic illness, incorporate nutrition and keep people active – all while making connections with family and friends.

## A HEALTH CRISIS

About half of American adults have 1 or more chronic diseases, often related to poor diet.

Source: USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2015-2020

One in 5 Americans suffer from persistent loneliness and that combined with social isolation significantly increase the risk for premature death, which make this a public health threat.

Source: American Psychological Association, 2017

## ADDRESSING THE HEALTH CRISIS

- People found community, connection and purpose through 2.1 million visits to Ys in three counties.
- Specialized amenities such as a Sensory Room and adaptive equipment became available when the Jackson R. Lehman Family Y opened in June 2017. This new Y features a warm water therapy pool, 6-lane 25-yard pool with a walk-in entry. Family changing rooms equipped with an adult size changing table and other unique features help people of all abilities belong at the Y.
- 4,459 youth improved their health while learning teamwork through sports.
- 6,656 children/youth learned confidence in and around the water helping to reduce the incidence of drownings.
- 121 people regained strength, stamina and spirit in a supportive environment with LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA, a free program for cancer survivors.
- 6,714 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities engaged in social and recreational activities.
- Ys in Allen, Wells and Whitley began offering programs such as Adaptive Swimming, designed specifically for people who have special needs. With a focus to make the Y available to all, many classes were evaluated and adapted to benefit all people, regardless of their physical or intellectual ability.







*"THE Y MEMBERSHIP  
HELPED THE  
ENTIRE FAMILY  
PHYSICALLY,  
MENTALLY AND  
SPIRITUALLY."*

— YMCA MEMBER

# HEALTHY LIVING

## IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



# CREATING OPPORTUNITIES: YMCA YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU (YSB)

Success starts early. We believe that all children deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. But not all futures are created equal. Obstacles and threats arise and children and teens need somewhere to turn for help. The YMCA Youth Service Bureau has been providing free services to support youth and their families since 1982.

## YOUTH IN DESPAIR

The Indiana poverty rate for high school dropouts is 26.2% and, nationally, high school dropouts commit about 75% of crimes.

Source: IU Kelley School of Business publication, March 2018; DoSomething.org

1.3 million runaway and homeless youth live on America's streets every day. (5,000 die each year). Runaways are more vulnerable to become victims of child trafficking.

Source: National Runaway Switchboard

## ADDRESSING YOUTH DESPAIR

### Status Offender Court Alternative Program (SOCAP):

1,187 at-risk students refocused on school and graduation. Approximately 90% of students who complete the program avoid the juvenile justice system.

### Youth Advocate Program

Two new Youth Advocate positions enable us to connect with more youth who are in despair and provide them with tools to succeed in life.

### Safe Place (a runaway prevention program):

12,000 students were educated about how to identify a safe place site and how to access immediate help during a crisis.

### Family Group Decision Making Conference:

24 impoverished families were educated about how to recognize and utilize their own strengths to fix and prevent future problems.

### Character Development Programs:

7,573 school-aged youth developed character and were empowered by mentors and role models through leadership training, leadership clubs, counseling, YMCA employment, child care, preschool, early learning programs, summer day and resident camp, outdoor education, and STEM activities.







*"I WANTED TO BE A  
PART OF A CHRISTIAN  
ORGANIZATION THAT  
HELPS PEOPLE IN THE  
COMMUNITY. THIS  
IS WHAT MAKES  
THE Y DIFFERENT  
THAN OTHER  
GYMS."*

— YMCA MEMBER

# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY GIVING BACK



# OUR MISSION AT WORK

## THE HAMILTON FAMILY

Before the Y, my two sons and I didn't have an active lifestyle. I longed to be healthier, for my children to learn sportsmanship, and for exercise and nutrition to be ingrained in us. Sometime around my thyroid cancer diagnosis I decided to stop putting off my health and with the help of financial assistance we joined the Y.

It wasn't long before we made friends through sports, classes and swim lessons. In addition, we've gained things we weren't expecting, like a sense of community and a love for peoples' differences. In the future, I see

my family becoming stronger, healthier versions of ourselves. I look forward to instilling the values the Y stands for into my growing toddlers. We are blessed to be part of the Y and are very thankful for it. We are a better family because of the Y.



## JORDAN AND JESSICA EHRMAN

In 2017, we became foster parents to two brothers ages 4 and 9. We are thankful for God's faithfulness and grateful to the YMCA's Early Learning Center for providing them with immediate care in a safe environment!

The staff have been so patient with our 4 year old working alongside him to help him reach his potential. He has already learned so much through the preschool program and we can't thank the staff enough for the amount of time and energy poured into both children.

The Y continues to be a huge supporter of our family and because of that our family can thrive. The boys have been able to make friends, learn new things and have loads of fun. We have loved seeing the excitement on their faces when they ask to say their new prayers from the Y at meals. The Y truly does put Christian principles into practice and we are grateful for that!





# 2017 DONORS

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***"WE ARE GRATEFUL  
TO THE Y FOR  
PROVIDING CARE  
AND A SAFE  
ENVIRONMENT  
FOR THE  
BOYS!"***

***– YMCA MEMBER***



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*"I AM WORKING HARD  
 NOW BECAUSE I SEE  
 SUCCESS IN MY  
 FUTURE."*

– YMCA YOUTH SERVICE  
 BUREAU CLIENT





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For a financial statement including our IRS form 990 visit [fwymca.org/financial\\_overview.php](http://fwymca.org/financial_overview.php).

For a complete list of donors from 2017 visit [fwymca.org/ymca\\_partners.php](http://fwymca.org/ymca_partners.php).

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Fort Wayne, IN 46802  
Board Chair: CHUCK BAILEY  
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## **OUR MISSION**

**To put Christian principles  
into practice through programs  
that build healthy spirit,  
mind and body for all.**



## **YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE**

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