



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA SPIRIT Spring 2017

YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne
347 W. Berry St.
Suite 500
Ft. Wayne, IN 46802

Dear Friends,

It is always hard to choose what to write to you about because we have so many activities, programs and initiatives going on at all of our YMCA locations. The list is extensive but I would like to share with you some of the programs and initiatives I am excited about.

- We are planning a medical mission trip to the YMCA in Arequipa, Peru.
- We are partnering with Fort Wayne United to establish programs for young African American men ages 15-25.
- We are adding staff to our SOCAP (Status Offender Court Alternative Program) to reduce drop out rates for at-risk students.
- The new Jackson R. Lehman Family YMCA will open in June of this year.
- We are developing programs for the population of people with special needs.
- We purchased a bicycle called the duet which combines a bike and a wheelchair so a person with a physical disability can enjoy the benefits of an outdoor bike ride.
- We are working with other wonderful organizations to help them fulfill their mission.
- We are asking you to get involved by volunteering to do good in our community.
- And the list goes on...

Every day, the YMCA's big picture strategy is to love and serve children, families and adults. As a member or stakeholder of the YMCA, I believe this is important for you to know. The staff and volunteer Board of Directors focus on impactful results that make a difference.

There are many reasons to participate and join the YMCA. One reason that may not be evident, but is very important, is to volunteer. Our Director of Christian Emphasis, Tim Hallman, recruits volunteers to help with various projects around the community. With 60,000 people who are members of the YMCA, we can be a force for good by developing a spirit of giving through volunteerism.

Check our website at fwymca.org to see what's available for you and/or your family. You can help transform lives through the YMCA. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Pastura
President and CEO
YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne

12th Annual YMCA

GOOD FRIDAY *Breakfast*

Dr. Reggie McNeal will be the featured speaker at our 12th annual YMCA Good Friday Breakfast.

Reggie enjoys helping people, leaders, and Christian organizations determine and experience epic wins with Kingdom impact. He serves as the Missional Leadership Specialist for Leadership Network of Dallas, TX.



Currently Reggie is working with community leaders around the country to build cross-domain collaborative efforts that can move the needle on big societal issues. Reggie has helped to shape the leadership conversation through his extensive consulting work and as an author.

The Good Friday Breakfast will be held on Friday, April 14 at 7:30 am at Hotel Fort Wayne (soon to be renamed Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center) on East Washington Center Road. The cost is \$25 per person or \$500 per eight-seat table sponsorship. A buffet breakfast is included and business casual attire is requested. The event is open to the public but seating is limited. Reservations are required by April 7, 2017 and can be made by contacting Gayle Dragoo at 260.918.2151 or Gayle_Dragoo@fwymca.org.

Sponsored by:





THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING! COMING SOON! THE JACKSON R. LEHMAN FAMILY YMCA

JOB FAIR!

A job fair will be hosted on April 6, 7, 10 & 11 from 11am to 2pm and 4-7pm (only 11am to 2pm on the 7th) at the St. Joseph United Methodist Church at 6004 Reed Road. We are seeking more than 100 outgoing, community-minded people to fill various part time positions. Membership staff, wellness attendants, group exercise instructors, maintenance staff, child care staff, lifeguards, building supervisors, and personal trainers are needed.

Bring your resume and apply in person. Come be a part of our new YMCA and impact your community! More information is available on our website.

HELPING OTHERS THROUGH THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



"There are no words that can articulate the incredible impact the Jorgensen Family YMCA has had on my life and the lives of the children who live with me. As a single mom the Y provides an affordable and safe place for my son and my foster children to learn, grow and have fun.

This is where my foster children learned to swim and where they spend countless hours playing basketball and climbing the rock wall. Without affordable activities, summer programs, and before and after school programs I wouldn't be able to be a foster parent. It means so much to me that the Y staff know my children by name and invest in relationships with them. My 6 year old often tells me not to pick him up so early!

While everyone at the Y is wonderful to work with, I especially appreciate staff members such as Natalie, Jen and Tobi. As a bonus, I utilize child watch, which allows me to work out and swim laps without worrying about the kiddos. If it were not for the YMCA providing a Christian environment for my children to grow, my family would not be the same." -Alicia

Thanks to generous donors, The YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne is able to impact the lives of people like Alicia every day. If you are in need of financial assistance, please contact your local branch. If you are interested in donating to the Annual Campaign, which makes financial aid possible, visit: www.fwymca.org/annual_campaign.php.

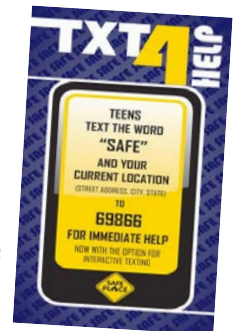


SAFE PLACE

SAFE PLACE
24 Hour Number:
260.466.7077

Safe Place is a national youth outreach and prevention program for young people in need of immediate help and safety. The Y is proud to announce that we oversee the local Safe Place program. Eighteen of our local Fire Stations are Safe Place sites, making help readily available to youth.

If a young person is having problems at home, suffering from abuse or neglect, lost, facing a dangerous situation, or just needs to talk about a problem, help is available at any Safe Place site, identified by the (black and yellow) sign. Youth may also call 260.466.7077 or text SAFE to access immediate help. National Safe Place week is March 19 – 25.



BEST SUMMER EVER!

When school is out, kids in grades K–6 can have fun making crafts, playing games and being active with their friends at a Y day camp! Registration is open now for spring and summer breaks!

Visit fwymca.org, pick up a brochure or call your local branch for more information!



2017 Summer Day Camps Available:

- Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family Y
- Camp Kekionga
- Harris Elementary School
- Jorgensen Family Y
- Parkview Family Y
- Renaissance Pointe Y
- Whitley County Family Y



CAMP POTAWOTAMI REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SUMMER 2017

YMCA Camp Potawotami has been building community, faith and friendship in a beautiful, safe environment for over 90 years! Camp is a lot of fun, with swimming, games, campfires, mud hikes, climbing, archery, arts and crafts – more packed into one week than most kids experience all summer!



But Camp Potawotami is more than that: It's about learning who you are and becoming what you want to be. It's about learning new skills, healthy habits and making new friends. At Camp Potawotami, kids build relationships and self-confidence while growing and finding themselves – and the excellence they are capable of.

No matter what their interests are, there is something for all kids at Camp Potawotami! For more information on programs and registration, visit fwycamp.org today! Still have questions? Email Katie_Taylor@fwymca.org.

HEALTHY KIDS DAY

Saturday, April 29
10 am – 2 pm

Many U.S. children do not get the recommended daily hours of physical activity or healthy foods. According to the latest findings of the YMCA's Family Health Snapshot – a survey of parents that gauges their children's activity levels during the school year – only 19% of children get 60 minutes of physical activity, only 17% read books for fun, and only 12% eat at least eight fruits and vegetables daily.

The YMCA wants to help you be healthier! Join us for Healthy Kids Day, Saturday, April 29 at YMCAs in Allen, Whitley and Wells counties from 10 am – 2 pm. Healthy Kids Day will feature free, educational activities at your local Y which help you and your family learn how to live healthier lives.

*Please note that even though the Jackson R. Lehman Y will not be open, we will be hosting Healthy Kids Day at Praise Park, near this Y.

Bring your neighbors to the Open House and introduce them to your Y Family! We will be waiving the \$75 enrollment fee all day on Saturday, April 29.

CELEBRATION OF YOUTH AWARDS

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2017.

Do you know a high school junior or senior who has made unique and exemplary contributions to others? If so, we want to hear from you!



Each year the Celebration of Youth Awards, sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank, recognizes six students who have shown innovation and outstanding achievement in their academic studies and exemplify the YMCA core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

For complete details or to apply online, visit www.fwymca.org/celebratemyouth or contact Nicole Hansen at 260.918.2144.

STAY CONNECTED.

Keep up-to-date with the latest Y news, events and programs and connect with other members. Like us on Facebook, ask us a question or share a story!

- Facebook.com/gfwymca
- HereForYou@fwymca.org
- twitter.com/YMCAFortWayne
- FindYourselfAtTheY.org
- fwymca.org

Scan this QR code to download our FREE YMCA app.





YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE

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fwymca.org

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

Camp Clean-Up Day at YMCA Camp Potawotami

Sunday, April 23rd
12-4pm



Bring the family and help get camp ready for summer! Work will include cleaning up the beach front, prepping the sand volleyball court, clearing trails, raking leaves and other general maintenance. Lunch is provided.

For questions or additional information, please contact Tim Hallman, Director of Christian Emphasis, at 260.755.4964 or Tim_Hallman@fwymca.org.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

William Hagerman Charitable Foundation - \$2,500 for YMCA Camp Potawotami, where kids develop a sense of accomplishment and belonging while learning about positive character traits in a fun-filled environment.

Otto Haas Charitable Trust - \$5,000 for general support of the YMCA Youth Service Bureau, which provides crisis and intervention services to youth and families in Allen County.

Arby's Foundation - \$1,000 for youth development programs at YMCA Camp Potawotami and YMCA Youth Service Bureau.

Howard P. Arnold Foundation - \$2,000 for the 2017 Annual Campaign, which provides financial assistance to children and families in need in the form of reduced membership rates or program fees.

Paul E. Shaffer Family Foundation - \$500 for the 2017 Annual Campaign, which provides financial assistance to children and families in need in the form of reduced membership rates or program fees.

MISSION PARTNERSHIPS

YMCA Mission Partners provide financial resources to strengthen our community and move us all forward. The continued support of these companies allows the YMCA to carry out our mission - making a meaningful, enduring impact in our community.



To inquire how your business can become a Mission Partner, contact Nicole Hansen at 260.918.2144 or Nicole_Hansen@fwymca.org.

Our mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.