



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Dear Members,

As we begin a new year, I would like to say thank you for being a member, donor, stakeholder or advocate of the YMCA. We are now a movement of 80,000 men, women and children. This is an important statistic because the YMCA is an organization that positively affects all parts of our community. With the addition of the Jackson R. Lehman YMCA on the northeast side of our community, the YMCA is positioned to expand our services even further.

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know about our strategic plan over the next few years. The board and staff have discussed the following which are above and beyond our everyday work in the areas of youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The 2018-2020 strategic priorities are as follows:

1. **Volunteerism-** As a movement, we are asking you to consider giving back to our wonderful community. What would it look like to harness the power of 80,000 members to help others? Our staff will continue to develop opportunities and make you aware of how you can get involved.
2. **Programming-**
 - Serving people with special needs by providing social, emotional, and physical programming continues to be a priority
 - Wellness in spirit, mind and body
 - International programs which include mission trips to YMCAs in Chile and Peru
3. **Endowment Development-** Over the last 18 years, we have expanded our footprint with buildings and programs. Our next goal is to help sustain YMCA programs for years to come.
4. **Hope for Youth Initiative-** There are many facets to this goal, so we will refine our current programs and focus on teen development.
5. **Staff retention, Development and Structure-** Currently, the YMCA employs approximately 1,300 people who need to understand the importance of great care and service to others. Making sure our staff provide a great experience for you is a priority for us.

There are many details that encompass these areas of work, but I hope this gives you some insight as to our expectations on how we can strengthen our community.

Thank you again for your commitment as a member of the YMCA.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Pastura
President & CEO





**BY HIS WOUNDS
WE ARE HEALED**

Isaiah 53:5

**13th Annual
YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE**

Good Friday Breakfast



Guest Speaker

Rev. Charles R. Harrison

Rev. Charles R. Harrison will be the featured speaker at our 13th annual YMCA Good Friday Breakfast.

Rev. Harrison has a heart for neighborhoods and has a reputation for making a difference in the community. In ministry for 30 years, he currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Barnes United Methodist Church in Indianapolis. He is also the President of the Board of Directors for the Indianapolis Ten Point Coalition which partners with the Office of the Indiana Attorney General.

This innovative grass-roots coalition brings key stakeholders together to foster peace where there is violence in the neighborhoods, helps young men find good jobs, and supports better educational opportunities for all. As a bridge-builder of hope, Rev. Harrison cares for those who serve and protect our communities as a chaplain to the Indiana State Police.

From these courageous experiences, Rev. Harrison will share with us an inspiring message of faith that heals and love that transforms our neighborhoods.

The Good Friday Breakfast will be held on Friday, March 30th at 7:30 am at the Parkview Mirro Event and Conference Center, 10622 Parkview Plaza Dr. 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 March 23, 2018 by contacting Gayle Dragoo at 260.918.2151 or Gayle_Dragoo@fwymca.org.

Sponsored by:



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CAMP POTAWOTAMI REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SUMMER 2018

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.

Camp Potawotami is also about learning new skills, healthy habits and making new friends. 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! For questions email Katie_Taylor@fwymca.org or call 260.351.2525.



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!

2018 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



HEALTHY KIDS DAY SATURDAY, APRIL 21

One in three U.S. children are obese, and when summertime hits, kids are more sedentary than ever. Research shows that without access to physical and learning activities, kids fall behind academically and gain weight twice as fast during summer than the school year. Healthy Kids Day helps parents begin thinking about what their kids need so they can stay active and achieve all summer long. The day will feature free, educational activities at your local Y which help you and your family learn how to live healthier lives.

**Bring your neighbors to an Open House
in Allen, Whitley or Wells counties from
10 am - 1 pm and introduce them to
your Y Family!
We will be waiving the \$75 enrollment
fee all day on Saturday, April 21.**

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!



Scan this
QR code to
download
our FREE
YMCA app.



Facebook.com/gfwymca



HereForYou@fwymca.org



twitter.com/YMCAFortWayne



FindYourselfAtTheY.org



fwymca.org

HELPING OTHERS THROUGH THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN



"Because of the Y, our family can thrive. Our foster children have been able to make friends, learn new things and have loads of fun. We have loved seeing the excitement on the boys' faces when they ask to say their new prayers from the Y at the dinner table. The Y truly does put Christian principles into practice and we are grateful for that!"

- Jessica Ehrman

Thanks to generous donors, The YMCA is able to help families like the Ehrmans every day. To learn more about the Ehrman's journey go to: fwymca.org/y_member_stories.php.

If you are interested in donating to the Annual Campaign, which makes financial aid possible, visit: fwymca.org/annual_campaign.php.



On Wednesday, February 21, Dallas Cowboys linebacker and Fort Wayne native Jaylon Smith visited students participating in the Active Science with Jaylon Smith program. Smith and volunteers with AWP Sports surprised students at two YMCA after-school locations to learn about student progress while taking part in their weekly lesson.

Active Science with Jaylon Smith is a partnership between Smith, Parkview Sports Medicine and the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne that teaches 3rd - through 5th-graders about healthy lifestyle choices and science learning. In it's first year, more than 532 children have been participating, more than 6 million steps taken and almost 187,000 calories burned.

COATS FOR KIDS SUCCESS!

This winter the Y participated again in gathering warm weather gear as part of Coats for Kids Fort Wayne. In addition to being a collection site at all 6 Allen county branches, YMCA volunteers delivered coats to seven schools. At the end of the campaign, a celebration was held at the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne with local partners who helped collect, clean, sort, and give over 5,000 winter coats to children in over 80 different schools and social agencies!

Many thanks to the Y members who donated over 150 winter coats and to the Y volunteers who delivered them to both Peerless Cleaners and the Volunteer Center Fort Wayne to be sorted!





YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE

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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!

Camp Clean-Up Day at YMCA Camp Potawatami

Sunday, April 22nd
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:

Otto Haas Charitable Trust

Enabling the YMCA Youth Service Bureau to provide comprehensive crisis and intervention services to at-risk youth and their families is the purpose of a \$5,000 grant.

AWS Foundation

Funding the Director of Adaptive Services staff position and related program costs is the purpose of a three year grant of \$159,515. This funding enables the Y to impact more persons with disabilities by expanding recreational and social opportunities.

Staples Foundation

Teaching bicycle mechanics, safety, good work habits, and leadership skills to at-risk youth is the purpose of a \$500 grant for the YMCA's new Skyline Urban Bike School Program.

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.