



GIVE FOR A BETTER US

The contribution of the Y reaches far beyond access to a gym.

The YMCA Youth Service Bureau

- ...supports our area's most vulnerable youth
- ...works to get kids back on track to graduate from high school
- ...gives at-risk adolescents tools they need to grow into thriving adults

The Renaissance Pointe YMCA

- ...provides activities such as reading, arts and music while nurturing teens in a safe environment
- ...helps kids cultivate relationships in teen programs that lead to positive behaviors
- ...feeds hungry youth throughout the summer with free meal programs

YMCA Camp Potawatami

- ...teaches kids positive character traits in a fun environment
- ...builds friendships between campers as they learn new skills
- ...emphasizes learning, growing and doing your best

Without financial assistance, many children, families and adults would not be able to experience the programs offered at these YMCA branches. Your gift of any amount makes a difference.

It is estimated that every year **1.6 million youth** run away from home and **800,000** become victims of **Sex Trafficking** within the first **48 hours**. Childhood trauma also attributes to young people being vulnerable to sex trafficking. Research shows that all it takes is **one stable, consistent, and caring adult** to change the trajectory of a **child's life**. The YMCA's Youth Service Bureau (YSB) Youth Advocacy Program works to build healthy relationships with at-risk youth.

Sierra felt isolated and alone when her parents became preoccupied with a family crisis. When she didn't get the attention she needed, she became involved with an adult who took advantage of her vulnerability. Sierra's experience is common among girls her age. According to a recent study **11- 14 is the typical age of recruitment for sex trafficking**. Although Sierra was sexually abused; fortunately she was not a victim of sex trafficking.

In 2019, she participated in our human trafficking prevention program which focuses on the dangers of unhealthy relationships. Sierra has come to be known for her intellectual and emotional intelligence. "I've changed a lot. I realize I can't depend on anyone else for my happiness," said Sierra. Sierra became open to encouragement and guidance from those around her which helped her see that she can rely on several adults who care for her and believe in her. She has begun to learn to love herself. She has also been brave enough to share her story with others and help them find their own voice.

Your Gift In Action

Every dollar donated to the YMCA Annual Campaign has a lasting impact on our community.

\$135	Gets 1 child into a week of fun, friendship, and memories at summer day camp.
\$250	Prevents 1 youth from becoming a victim of violence or sex trafficking through the Safe Place Program.
\$300	Sponsors participation for half of a youth basketball team where kids learn teamwork and sportsmanship.
\$705	Sends 1 child to a week of overnight summer camp where they build self-confidence and increase self-esteem.
\$1,250	Provides a teen with one year of structured after school activities, healthy snacks and homework help.
\$2,500	Mentors and supports a troubled adolescent for 1 year, helping them address childhood trauma, gain confidence and focus on high school graduation.

Through Your Generosity, Together We Will:

- Give at-risk kids hope for their future.
- Ensure that life-enriching summer overnight camp is available to all young people.
- Continue to provide opportunities for everyone to participate at the Y, regardless of their age, income or background.



GIVE



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fwymca.org/give



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BY PHONE:
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The YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



**ANNUAL
CAMPAIGN**

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**Annual Campaign
YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE**