Dear Friends,

I am honored and humbled to share with you my thoughts on our great YMCA. First, I am grateful for the support and kind words since being named President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne. I am extremely thankful for the mentorship by Marty Pastura, our President Emeritus. Marty’s hard work and passion has resulted in incredible growth and a strengthening of our community that cannot be fully described. Marty will continue to serve the community as a nonprofit consultant and will specifically help the YMCA raise funds for our Youth Development Legacy Endowment Fund. This fund will help support youth and teen programs that take a prevention approach to youth development. We want all youth to have access to great role models and programs that nurture their potential. If you are interested in supporting this new fund, please let me know and Marty will reach out to you. Together we will continue to help youth, families, and adults grow in spirit, mind, and body.

I hope you are striving to use the Y as a tool to help you grow personally in spirit, mind, and body. Whether you have a goal related to health, family time, education, faith, or community involvement, the YMCA can help you achieve that goal. At the Y we intentionally find ways to connect people to their community and other like-minded individuals. When you belong to an organization of like-minded people, your confidence grows, your hope expands, and your spirits are lifted. These newfound strengths can motivate you to persevere and inspire others to do the same. Most importantly, at the Y, all people can reap these benefits regardless of background or economic status. Your financial support and participation in the Y makes this possible. Thank you!

With gratitude,

Chris Angellatta
President & CEO
YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne
KIMBROUGH RECEIVES AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER EXCELLENCE

At the Foundation’s Leadership Luncheon on October 20, 2019, the The Foellinger Foundation presented the 2019 David A. Bobilya Excellence in Nonprofit Leadership Award to Thomas M. Kimbrough. The award recognizes the contributions of individual board members in nonprofit organizations in four focus areas – governance, leadership, financial sustainability and program impact.

“As a board member and volunteer leader at various YMCA branches throughout Allen County for almost forty years, Mr. Kimbrough has played an integral role in strategic planning, board policies, bylaw revisions, capital campaigns, and strategic initiatives. Mr. Kimbrough has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serving the best interests of the YMCA, and the community as a whole,” said Michael Moellering, Foellinger Foundation Board Chair.

LOCAL COMPANIES FOCUS ON WORKPLACE WELLNESS

Twenty-six local companies were recognized at the YMCA’s 11th Annual Workplace Wellness Awards, presented by the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne at the Parkview Mirro Center on October 23.

The awards, which recognize employers who create healthier workplaces for employees, are based on the National YMCA’s Community Healthy Living Index, which is an assessment of a workplace’s physical environment, physical activity opportunities, health promotional efforts, healthy eating options and company policies. Each company was given an index score that marked their placement along the workplace wellness continuum.

Chad Shirar, Director, Diabetes Care Strategy for Parkview Health was the guest speaker at the event. Shirar shared his expertise on behavior change and research stating a low level of cardio respiratory fitness exposes an individual to a greater risk of dying than does smoking, obesity, hypertension or high cholesterol. Shirar also explained the overeating, restrictive and instinctive eating cycles and the importance of behavior change and mindful eating.

For more information about the YMCA’s workplace wellness awards and assessment tool or corporate wellness programs, contact the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne at HereForYou@fwymca.org or call 422-6488.

YOUR SUPPORT IS OUR STRENGTH

YMCA Annual Campaign Raises Funds for Financial Assistance Program

Because of our commitment to strengthen the foundation of our community, through November 2019, together we awarded $3.3 million in financial aid to people throughout Allen, Whitley and Wells Counties. With your help we have made great strides, but we believe we can do so much more.

In 2020 we will be raising money to help offset membership and program fees for people who want to be part of the Y family but cannot afford to do so. In order to be successful, your branch needs your help.

For more information on how you can help our Annual Campaign through volunteering or giving, check with your local branch, visit fwymca.org, or email HereForYou@fwymca.org.
2019 WASH FOR A CAUSE

We are grateful to Mike’s Carwash who recently raised over $15,500 for the YMCA’s Youth Service Bureau (YSB). The Youth Service Bureau serves as an advocate for at-risk youth by providing a variety of free services and programs at no charge. Through advocacy, the YSB gives at-risk adolescents the tools, skills and support they need to succeed and grow into thriving adults and community members. We appreciate this support from Mike’s Carwash and the opportunity to work with local organizations to make our community stronger!

RIVER CITY RAT RACE A SUCCESS!

The 19th Annual River City Rat Race was a success thanks to the participants and volunteers! The event helps to raise our 20 year cumulative total to over $144,128. The proceeds will be given to the Central YMCA’s Annual Campaign which provides financial assistance to people who want to participate at the Y but are not able to afford membership or program fees.

Thank you to those who supported this year’s event. Join us for our 21st River City Rat Race on Sunday, October 18th, 2020! Contact Pam Wolfe at pamrwolfe@aol.com for more information.

WINTER WEATHER ADVISORIES

In the unlikely event that a YMCA must close due to weather related or other circumstances, cancellations will be communicated to the following FM stations: 88.3, 90.3, 92.3, 93.3, 95.1, 96.3, 97.3, 101.7, 102.9, 105.1, 106.3, or 107.9. WANE TV and Indiana’s NewsCenter will also be requested to broadcast this information.

To keep up to date, follow us on Facebook, visit our website at fwymca.org or download our mobile app (below).

Scan this QR code or visit fwymca.org/app to download our mobile app.

GET CONNECTED

In a world where people feel disconnected, your Y can help you make friends and find support. Follow your favorite branch on Facebook to discover what’s going on at your local Y and share what matters to you.

facebook.com/FWCentralBranchYMCA
facebook.com/JacksonRLehmanYMCA
facebook.com/jorgensenymca
facebook.com/parkviewfamilyymca
facebook.com/RenaissancePointeYMCA
facebook.com/SkylineYMCA
facebook.com/WhitleyCountyYMCA
facebook.com/WhitleyCountyFamilyYMCA
facebook.com/YMCAELC/
facebook.com/gfwymca
THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

**Lincoln Financial Foundation** – Giving youth educational opportunities that enhance the traditional classroom experience is the purpose of a $45,000 grant from the Lincoln Financial Foundation [www.LincolnFinancial.com](http://www.LincolnFinancial.com). The funding will support the Outdoor Education program at YMCA Camp Potawotami, Renaissance Pointe Y Summer Day Camp, and before and after school care at Southwick Elementary School. #LincolnsLegacy#grant

**Indiana Department of Children’s Services** – Providing youth in crisis situations with access to immediate help and supportive resources through Safe Place is the purpose of a $7,143 grant to the YMCA Youth Service Bureau. Safe Place is a nationally recognized runaway prevention program.

**Lakes Area Autism Network** – Funding supplies, equipment and refreshments for YMCA sensory friendly events is the purpose of a $200 grant. Sensory friendly events are examples of how the Y strives to provide opportunities for all.

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, Director of Mission Advancement, 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.