



Chloe and Sophie Metz with Youth Advocate Chelsi Lawson

### **S** Status Offender Court Alternative Program (SOCAP)

SOCAP helps vulnerable youth avoid the juvenile justice system, get on track to graduate from high school and learn the necessary skills to face challenges and succeed in life.

### **S** Safe Place

This nationally recognized runaway prevention program is designed for young people who need immediate help and safety. Safe Place makes help readily available to local youth in crisis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **A** Anti-Graffiti Network

Armed with gallons of paint, youth involved in community service cover graffiti in our area. In 25 years, we have cleaned graffiti from more than 74,719 sites in Fort Wayne.

"Allen County Juvenile Court referred the Metz twins to the YMCA's SOCAP (Status Offender Court Alternative Program) due to truancy. It was clear that the teens had a unique bond but were suffering from emotional trauma, anger, depression, and did not trust authority.

The girls were absent 110 of 180 school days. When they did attend school, there were often verbal and physical altercations with others. Due to lack of coping skills they were failing classes, falling behind on credits, and got suspended.

Youth Advocate Chelsi Lawson worked to build positive rapport and trust while helping the girls express themselves as individuals. Chelsi was able to establish counseling services while working with the school to develop a positive action plan.

While the girls were in the Y's program, each decided to make changes. Sophie and Chloe began to attend school consistently, work hard academically, and support each other to get back on track to graduate. Chelsi and the school officials collaborated to provide the girls with the resources, support, and encouragement needed to be successful. On track to graduate, the girls have their sights set on going into the field of holistic medicine."

-Chloe and Sophie Metz

## Through Your Generosity, Together We Will:

- Give our area's most vulnerable youth hope for their future.
- Help students who have fallen behind in school refocus and earn a high school diploma.
- Protect troubled youth from danger at home and on the streets.



# Your Gift In Action

Every donation to the YMCA Annual Campaign has a powerful impact on the youth from our community. In 2022, 625 youth and families received free services thanks to generous donors.

**\$100**

Gives 3 struggling families vouchers for food.

**\$250**

Prevents 1 youth from becoming a victim of violence or sex trafficking through the Safe Place Program.

**\$500**

Offers 2 low income families case management services that assist in helping youth receive a high school diploma.

**\$2,500**

Mentors and supports a troubled adolescent for 1 year, helping them address childhood trauma, gain confidence and focus on high school graduation.

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.

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