



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2016
Benefits to the Community
YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne

FOR A
BETTER
US





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Friends:

Over the past year, the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne has been successful in serving our members and the community. It is amazing to see how many children, families and adults are impacted by YMCA facilities and programs. As you review the content in this annual summary called "Benefits to the Community," you will see that we focus on fulfilling our cause as we strengthen the foundation of our community.

Our ultimate goal is to be a leader in developing people. We do this through our collaborations with other organizations, through our programs, and through community endeavors. We do it solely to help make our community better and to improve the quality of life in our area. We value our members, donors and partners, and we would not be successful without our caring, giving community.

We hope that you gain a better understanding of what the YMCA is doing as you read on. On behalf of the staff and YMCA Board of Directors, thank you for helping make the YMCA a very impactful organization. We continue to be a catalyst for positive change in our community dedicated to A BETTER YOU, A BETTER COMMUNITY and A BETTER US.

Sincerely,

Martin L. Pastura

Mary E. Bell



MARTIN L. PASTURA
President &
Chief Executive Officer



MARY E. BELL
Board Chair

POWERFUL ADVOCATES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



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& BRANCH BOARDS



FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY

Every life is built on defining moments—both big and small. At the Y, we offer a place where individuals and families have opportunities to succeed—regardless of their background or income—and we have learned that happens best when we unite to nurture the potential in all of us.

The truth is, not everyone knows about the Y. Some think we are just a gym. We want to make sure you know that it's your volunteerism and financial support that allow us the opportunity to actually change lives, not just talk about it.



“ My experience with volunteering at the Y was great. I love to come together as a community and show God's love. Mother Teresa once said, 'I alone can't change the world, but I can cast a stone and create many ripples.' That's what volunteering is. Thanks!

- Heather ”



The YMCA is a powerful association of men, women and children from all walks of life, joined by a shared passion to strengthen the foundation of our community.

YMCA HAS UNWAIVERING COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE



COMMUNITY HAPPENS HERE

Allen County and the Greater Fort Wayne area have benefitted from the Y for more than 160 years because we are a vibrant organization focused on making our community better. Because people are influenced by who they spend time with, it is crucial for everyone to have a gathering place filled with people who encourage, support and model positive characteristics.

There is no place more equipped to do this than the Y. We have been a catalyst for positive change by offering a variety of activities and support to local families with an array of programs and facilities throughout Allen, Whitley and Wells counties.

115 full-time staff, 1,624 part-time staff, 1,900 volunteers and 1,645 donors worked together to invest in people's lives with their time, talent and treasure.

When people join the Y, we want them to see that they are joining an organization that gives back and is involved in addressing some of our area's biggest societal issues.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

NURTURING THE POTENTIAL OF EVERY CHILD AND TEEN

FOR BETTER FUTURES

A successful future for children and teens begins with caring adults who make them feel loved, competent, happy and healthy. That's why Y staff and volunteers are also mentors and role models, sharing a part of this very important responsibility of helping youth grow into the best version of themselves.



“ As a single mom, there are no words that can articulate the impact the Jorgensen Family YMCA has had on my life. The Y provides an affordable, safe place for my son and foster children to learn, grow and have fun through activities, summer camps, and before- and after-school programs.

– Amber ”

READ MORE HERE

YMCA GIVES HOPE TO YOUTH

Enriching the lives of hundreds of youth is something we do every day. In response to the epidemic of youth violence in our area, we took our work to the next level. This new initiative, called **Hope for Youth**, involves working with at-risk youth; at-risk for not completing high school; at-risk for becoming involved in gangs, violence or criminal activity; or at-risk for not developing to their fullest potential.

By hiring additional staff, collaborating with other organizations, recruiting volunteers and standing alongside youth in these situations, we help them learn job skills, set goals, get an education and have a positive outlook toward their future.

Community deterioration and juvenile delinquency are pressing social issues that the YMCA works to address.

We lead the way in responding to the needs of area youth by offering educational and character development programs such as:

- Early learning (for children ages 6 months to 6 years)
- Half-day preschool
- Before- and after-school care
- Daytime summer camp and overnight summer camp
- Teen Leaders Club and youth leadership programs
- Counselors and Leaders in Training
- International Service Trips
- Educational programs aimed at reducing summer learning loss
- Integrative Arts Program which provides arts and humanities opportunities to low income students

By infusing today's youth with the YMCA's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility, along with a healthy lifestyle, we decrease the potential of youth violence and offer a positive place to come together. Productive youth make communities safer and more neighborly.



**OUR IMPACT:
THE YMCA EQUIPS
YOUTH TO MAKE THEIR
DREAMS A REALITY**

“ It is always rewarding when a student reaches a great milestone and exceeds our expectations. We know that our program helps propel youth toward a better future and that is why we work so hard to make these services available at no cost to each family.

– Greg Barnes
Executive Director of the YMCA Youth Service Bureau

”

HEALTHY LIVING

IMPROVING THE NATION'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

FOR BETTER HEALTH

True health is a balance of spirit, mind and body. With a mission centered on this balance, the Y brings families together, encourages healthy lifestyles, promotes life-long learning and fosters connections with old and new friends through sports, recreation and shared interests.



I came to the Parkview Family YMCA, asking for help for my daughter who was being released from the hospital and needs physical, occupational and water therapy – some of which we could do at home, but we needed a gym for the rest. I knew we didn't qualify for financial assistance, so I prayed for someone to say, 'we can help.' God brought me to you, and your generosity was an answered prayer for my daughter.

- Teri

READ MORE HERE

YMCA IS AN AGENT OF CHANGE

Big changes happen in a community by transforming one person at a time. By bringing people together at seven membership branches and three social service branches, we empower men, women and children to improve their health and wellness, share athletic and recreational interests, grow and have fun.

All of this leads to happier, more productive members of our society who are better equipped to raise their families and tackle day-to-day problems. The outcome of our work lessens the burden on government and reduces neighborhood tensions, which are both vital to the quality of life in our community.



OUR IMPACT: THE YMCA HELPS EVERYONE GET MORE OUT OF LIFE

Y MEMBERSHIP GOES BEYOND BUILDING WALLS

When people join the Y, we want them to feel loved and served. Our programs and services are tools to help people grow. We also want to offer people the opportunity to love and serve others in a genuine way. Giving back is as important as using our facilities. The advantages of a gym membership go far beyond access to a gym, as we work to help men, women and children become the best version of themselves.



DID YOU KNOW? IN 2016,

- 217 corporate YMCA members worked toward reducing health care costs and implementing workplace practices that lead to higher productivity and greater job satisfaction.
- We served an average of 58,000 members and 22,000 program participants.
- The Skyline YMCA and commuter bike hub were opened on South Harrison Street in Downtown Fort Wayne. Those working and/or living downtown now have a convenient before-, during- or after-work venue to reduce stress with a workout, learn new strength and conditioning techniques with a personal trainer, or participate in volunteer efforts to give back to the local community.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GIVING BACK AND PROVIDING SUPPORT TO OUR NEIGHBORS

FOR BETTER NEIGHBORHOODS

We understand the challenges that keep people from reaching their full potential, and respond with services and support to help them become self-reliant, productive and connected to their community. We respond to the unique needs of our neighborhoods through services focused on critical areas, such as chronic disease prevention, education, quality of life and family services. We are committed to empowering people with the resources and support they need to live healthy, connected lives.



“

As the pastor of Charis House and a YMCA instructor, I wanted to share this note about a House resident. Monike is very excited about her Y family membership and has involved her family in the experience – exercising and doing positive things together. Her struggling son looks forward to their ‘Y time’ and is using it in his recovery.

- Candace

”

[READ MORE HERE](#)

(FROM FRONT COVER)
**PARTNERS IN HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON,
LIVESTRONG® AT THE YMCA**

We believe in offering the gift of hope to the people in our community. For the fifth consecutive year, we provided LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA for free to anyone who is currently facing or has faced cancer. This proven program empowers adult cancer survivors to take an active role in their own health by engaging in strength and conditioning exercises at their local Y.

**OUR IMPACT:
EVERYONE
COMES
TOGETHER
FOR THE
COMMON
GOOD**

EVERYONE HAS A PLACE AT THE Y

Social responsibility comes in many forms. From making the Y accessible to people with disabilities, to providing financial assistance to people without the means to afford a Y membership, our mission ends with "...for all." This means we are intentional about making sure that everyone knows there is a place for them at the Y.

As part of our efforts to build a culture of inclusion, we focus on making the Y more accessible to the population of approximately 20,000 individuals with intellectual or physical disabilities who reside in our service area. As we designed the new Jackson R. Lehman Family YMCA, we included a sensory room and ramp access to a second pool, which will also provide warm water therapy, adaptive equipment and adaptive programs.



LIVESTRONG® at the Y helps you transition from thinking about yourself as a cancer patient to becoming more of a survivor and getting back into your life.

Being with other people who have been through a similar experience makes it less lonely and gives you courage.

- Kevin Gearhardt

LEARN MORE HERE



SAFE KIDS THRIVE WITH HELP FROM THE Y

The Y started a local Safe Place program in response to the increasing rate of child abuse and neglect in Allen County. This national program provides youth in crisis situations access to immediate help and supportive resources. Sites were initially established at six YMCAs and then all 18 Fort Wayne fire stations became Safe Place sites.

If a young person needs help, they can go to any location that displays the distinctive yellow and black Safe Place sign. The program is a natural extension of the free crisis intervention services that YSB has been providing for more than 20 years. Safe Place keeps youth safe, helps families through crises and saves lives.

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 James & Lisa Vance
 Keith & Melissa Vander Dussen
 James VanDyck
 Vardaman Insurance
 Tad Varga
 Adam Vetter
 Susan & Jeff Walls
 Kevin Weatherbe
 Monica Weaver
 Bill & Cindy Webber
 John & Jolin Whicker
 Whitley County Retired Teachers Assoc.
 Tim J. Wiggins
 Robert Williams
 John & Natalie Woods
 Robin & Teresa Wright
 Dave Young
 Mark & Kathy Young
 Laney, Zander & Harper Ziliak

OUR IMPACT: VOLUNTEERING ADDS VALUE TO OUR LIVES

SEEKING TO SERVE

As a cause-driven organization, the Y is committed to social responsibility in many ways, including volunteerism. From larger-scale projects like building new homes to raking leaves, in 2016 Y members were on hand. More than 1,900 volunteers served in roles as coaches, board members or community-service volunteers all aiming to help others.

"Our Christian principles are expressed by mobilizing members to serve in the community, which adds value to their own lives," said Tim Hallman, Director of Christian Emphasis, a position created in 2016 in the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne.



2016 YMCA MISSION PARTNERS



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"I had a wonderful experience volunteering! It was nice to meet others and see the passion for volunteering. I will look out for future activities. Thank you."

- Dipti



I am thankful for your efforts to consolidate volunteer opportunities during 2016. As a volunteer, the program allowed me to help out a variety of different organizations throughout the year. It was personally rewarding to meet other volunteers and people who work permanently at the agencies.

- Greg

2016 HIGHLIGHTS

In the summer of 2016, **Y on the Fly** (our free mobile summer program) provided more than **700 children with fun, safe and structured physical activities and healthy snacks**—and offered opportunities to role model and support children ages 2-16 in 10 underserved neighborhoods in the Fort Wayne area.

In order to make the Y available to everyone, **we provided 24,802 people with financial assistance** in the form of reduced membership rates or program fees, ensuring that programs and services are available to all.

We awarded more than \$1.9 million in financial assistance in 2016 throughout Allen, Whitley and Adams Counties. This means one out of every five people participating at the Y receives financial assistance in order to participate.

As part of our 7th grade initiative, **454 7th graders received free YMCA memberships**, which offered positive after-school activities, homework help and education about volunteerism and giving back.

With a goal to help a family identify its strengths, set goals and work toward keeping youth in school and on track to graduate, our **Youth Service Bureau's free services provides the opportunity for a more promising future** to local youth at-risk for not completing school. Of the **1,280 students and families who participated in the program in the 2015-2016 school year, an incredible 91% got back on track academically and avoided the juvenile justice system.**

554 children experienced the thrill of nature, built character and made friendships at **YMCA Camp Potawatami's summer resident camp.**

5,513 children and teens built self-confidence and learned how to work as a team by participating in youth sports programs.

749 men, women and children learned how to save a life through the YMCA's CPR, first aid, lifeguarding and other life-saving courses.

5,455 youth reduced their risk for water-related accidents by participating in the YMCA's swimming lessons.

2,530 children participated in our before- and after-school care programs, and were encouraged to reach their fullest potential in a welcoming, supportive environment.

Through the **YMCA's Celebration of Youth Program in conjunction with Wells Fargo, six young adults were recognized** for demonstrating the Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility **with a one-year Y membership and a \$1,000 scholarship to pursue post secondary education.**

132 men and women reduced their chances of developing diabetes by participating in the YMCA's Diabetes Prevention Program.

1,880,600 visits were made throughout Allen, Whitley and Wells County YMCAs, where people found community, connection and purpose.

61 people benefitted from the LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA program, which provides support, encouragement and confidence at re-engaging in life after cancer.

LEADING THE WAY

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Regional President | Wells Fargo Bank

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GERALD WITTE
Retired Senior VP | PNC

DAVID YOUNG
VP | iAB Financial Bank

YMCA METROPOLITAN OFFICE SENIOR LEADERSHIP

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President & Chief Executive Officer

CHRIS ANGELLATTA
Chief Operations Officer

MICK SOKOLOWSKI
Chief Financial Officer

NICOLE HANSEN
Director of Mission Advancement

SCOTT HELMKAMP
Director of Leadership Development

TIM HALLMAN
Director of Christian Emphasis

GLENN RYAN
Director of Property and Facilities

WENDY SPITZNAGEL
Executive Director of Healthy Living

YMCA BRANCH LEADERSHIP

**CAYLOR-NICKEL
FOUNDATION FAMILY YMCA**
550 West Dustman Road
Bluffton, Indiana 46714
Board Chair: TODD JOHNSON
Executive Director: JON JENKINS

**CENTRAL BRANCH YMCA
& SKYLINE YMCA**
1020 Barr Street/838 South Harrison Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
Board Chair: GRETCHEN STEELE
Executive Director: AMANDA FALL

JACKSON R. LEHMAN FAMILY YMCA
5680 YMCA Park Drive West
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46835
Executive Director: TABITHA ERVIN

JORGENSEN FAMILY YMCA
10313 Aboite Center Road
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46804
Board Chair: ANDREW ABLES
Executive Director: KATHRYN CUSTER

PARKVIEW FAMILY YMCA
10001 Dawsons Creek Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825
Board Chair: ROBERT FRANCIS
District Executive Director: PATRICK KELLY

RENAISSANCE POINTE YMCA
2323 Bowser Avenue
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46803
Board Chair: ANTHONY RIDLEY
Executive Director: AMOS NORMAN

WHITLEY COUNTY FAMILY YMCA
950 East Van Buren Street
Columbia City, Indiana 46725
Board Chair: RYAN RICHEY
Executive Director: ERICA MILLER

YMCA CAMP POTAWOTAMI
7255 East 700 South
Wolcottville, Indiana 46795
Board Chair: TOPHER SCHLATTER
District Executive Director: PATRICK KELLY

YMCA CHILD CARE SERVICES
1117 South Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
Board Chair: JIM EMMERSON
Executive Director: LISA KISOR

YMCA YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU
1117 South Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802
Board Chair: CHUCK BAILEY
Executive Director: GREG BARNES

A young child with dark hair is smiling and looking down at a large, bright orange balloon. The child is wearing a dark-colored shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus orange color. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter.

**OUR
MISSION**

To put
Christian principles
into practice through
programs that build
healthy spirit, mind
and body for all.



YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE

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