



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SUMMER  
2020

# SPIRIT

YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne • 347 West Berry Street, Suite 500 • Fort Wayne, IN 46802 • [fwymca.org](http://fwymca.org)

Dear Friends,

The last few months have been emotional and challenging. Together we have faced a global pandemic, economic crisis and the fight for social justice. These battles are not over, but just beginning. We continue to look for ways to overcome these challenges with the YMCA mission as our guide. Together we can open our hearts and minds to make real progress toward a healthy, equitable and thriving community. Our approach is embodied in the African proverb "If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together." The community comes together at the Y, and together we can go far.

During these times of great change, the Y is here to provide a gathering place for everyone. There are few places in our community that truly brings all walks of life together. We not only welcome all walks of life, but intentionally look for ways to assist the underserved and reach people that need care and support. For example, we extend our hand to seventh graders with a free membership, support older adults with social connections and build community for persons of diverse abilities. We have not been perfect, but we strive to be a place that exemplifies the last two words of our mission statement, "for all".

As a nonprofit, no one owns the YMCA. However, the Y is governed by a diverse group of local volunteers serving as the board of directors. This board provides strategic direction for the programs and services offered by the Y. Additionally, each YMCA branch has a consulting board that provides support and advice on services specific to that location. Every dollar we raise or earn returns to the community through service and program reinvestment. Teen programs such as College & Career Readiness, Youth and Government, Teen Leader Clubs, Youth Advocacy (mentoring) and truancy intervention (SOCAP) are funded through donations and earned revenue. Wellness programs such as LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA, Diabetes Prevention and Blood Pressure Self-Management are subsidized thanks to donor funding. We could not do this important youth work or launch critical health care initiatives without your financial support and membership commitment.

You are part of something bigger when you belong to the Y. Thank you!

With gratitude,

Chris Angellatta  
President & CEO  
YMCA OF GREATER FORT WAYNE

Our mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

# FALL I PROGRAM REGISTRATION COMING SOON!

Session Dates:

September 14 – November 1

Member registration begins:

**Monday, August 17**

Program participant registration begins:

**Monday, August 24**

# DOWNLOAD THE YMCA MOBILE APP!



Scan this QR code or visit [fwymca.org/app](http://fwymca.org/app) to download our mobile app.

## YMCA COMMUNITY RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

- During the pandemic, the Y opened three emergency childcare sites for healthcare and essential workers, providing over 900 hours of care.
- The Y launched a Grab-&-Go Supper program out of the Renaissance Pointe YMCA. Over 12,000 meals were provided, many delivered to local neighborhoods where transportation is an issue.
- "Operation Lifting Spirits" was an effort by staff to reach out by phone to older adults who were missing their social interactions because the Y was closed. Employees reached out to over 6,000 older adults!
- A variety of online workouts and family activities were made available to help people in the community stay fit and engaged.
- The YMCA Youth Service Bureau continued to operate via video/phone to hold truancy hearings, mentor teens and run Safe Place, our 24/7 crisis intervention program for youth who need immediate shelter. During this time, Y staff also supplied meals for vulnerable youth in our programs.

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!



- [facebook.com/gfwymca](https://facebook.com/gfwymca)
- [facebook.com/WellsCountyYMCA](https://facebook.com/WellsCountyYMCA)
- [facebook.com/FWCentralBranchYMCA](https://facebook.com/FWCentralBranchYMCA)
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## LABOR DAY

YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne branches will be closed Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.





## 2020 WORKPLACE WELLNESS AWARD NOMINATIONS BEGIN

The YMCA Workplace Wellness Awards honor employers for making strides in providing a healthier workplace! As an integral part of supporting healthy living in our community, the YMCA encourages all employers to create a culture of wellness at their workplace. Employers who participate are recognized for wellness efforts, but also learn ways to incorporate additional wellness initiatives.

Your company does not have to be a wellness expert to take part in the Workplace Wellness Awards! The entire process is an educational experience that will benefit your business regardless of its current stage in corporate wellness development.

To nominate your company:

- Visit [fwymca.org/nomination](http://fwymca.org/nomination) and fill out the workplace wellness assessment and nomination form by September 4th.
- Nomination fee is \$25.

Questions? Contact [Natalie\\_Woods@fwymca.org](mailto:Natalie_Woods@fwymca.org) at 260.918.2149.



"I get lots more fresh air and sunshine now that I ride with Trail Buddies. What I love most about Trail Buddies is the new friendships I made, our fun get togethers, the beautiful spring, summer and fall weather and the great sing-alongs while riding."  
- Noella, Trail Buddies rider



"Once I took a few riders, I quickly realized that being able to ride a bike in whatever capacity is still as exciting to the rider as what it has been for me for my entire life."  
- Mona, Trail Buddies volunteer

## TRAIL BUDDIES

Trail Buddies invites people who have a physical disability or are unable to pedal a bike to go for a ride in the fresh air! This free, inclusive program allows adults and kids to be pedaled by caring, trained volunteers with our specialized bike. Trail Buddies is more than a bike ride; it provides opportunities for socialization, relationship building and connecting with the great outdoors. The program is enjoyed by all, including riders, volunteers and even those passing by! This program is offered at the Jorgensen and Parkview Family YMCA locations.



To get involved or to learn more about adaptive and inclusive programs, contact the Director of Adaptive Services at (260) 755-4961 or visit our website at [fwymca.org/adaptive-inclusive](http://fwymca.org/adaptive-inclusive).



TICKETS: \$35/Person

## 7TH ANNUAL SIP AND SUPPORT

Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 • 5:30-7:30 pm  
Promenade Park Pavilion, 202 West Superior Street

## CREATE A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Since 1992, the YMCA Youth Service Bureau has provided support for troubled youth and their families. While the primary goal is to provide crisis and intervention services, we do so much more. Through advocacy, we give at-risk adolescents the tools, skills and support they need to succeed and grow into thriving adults and community members.

Help create a bright future for area youth by supporting the 7th Annual Sip and Support fundraiser sponsored by Mike's Carwash. Ways to get involved include a sponsorship, donating money or an auction item or purchasing tickets to the event. For tickets contact the YMCA Youth Service Bureau at 260.449.7511 or purchase online at [fwymca.org/sipandsupport](http://fwymca.org/sipandsupport). Unable to attend? Join us online to bid on items!

[fwymca.org/sipandsupport](http://fwymca.org/sipandsupport)



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[fwymca.org](http://fwymca.org)

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## THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Several foundations provided COVID-19 Emergency Grants to enable the Y to provide more than 13,000 meals to the community through our food assistance program:

**AWS Foundation** - \$5,000

**Delta Dental Foundation** - \$1,000

**St. Joseph Community Health Foundation** - \$5,000

**United Way of Allen County** - \$20,000

**Howard P. Arnold Foundation** – Delivering financial assistance to children and families in need in the form of reduced membership rates or program fees is the purpose of \$1,000 grant for the Y's 2020 Annual Campaign.

**Edward D. and Ione Auer Foundation** – Enabling hundreds of local children and youth to engage in a variety of arts and humanities activities is the purpose of a \$25,000 grant for the YMCA Integrative Arts Program.

**AWS Foundation** – Bringing the iCan Bike program to the Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA in Wells County is the purpose of a \$10,679 grant. The iCan Bike program teaches children and adults with disabilities how to ride a bike.

**AWS Foundation** – Providing the first-ever Gilmore Inclusive Arts Grant to enable the Y to build awareness is the purpose of a \$25,000 grant. The YMCA produced and distributed "Stronger Together," an educational public service video and billboard campaign featuring people with diverse abilities to show the similarities and differences in individuals with visible and invisible disabilities. The campaign ran during the month of March 2020.

**The Dekko Foundation** – Assuring the consistency that young children need to learn, grow and thrive is the purpose of a \$35,000 grant for the Whitley County Family YMCA's Armstrong Early Learning Center. The grant will be used to increase the number of classrooms implementing principle-based learning of interests, context for learning and learning as its own reward.

**Foellinger Foundation** – Providing additional operating funds to ensure continued community impact during the pandemic is the purpose of a grant in the amount of \$72,500.

**NiSource Foundation and NIPSCO** – Supporting the 2020 YMCA Annual Campaign is the purpose of a \$1,000 grant. Funds are used to provide financial assistance to children and families to enable their participation at the YMCA.

**Parkview Community Health Improvement Program (CHIP)** – Enabling the Y to impact more people in 2020 through our evidence-based and information-based health initiatives is the purpose of Parkview CHIP funds. Initiatives include the YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program, LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA, EnhanceFitness and more.

**PNC Foundation** – Enabling the Y to provide emergency childcare for healthcare and essential workers during the COVID-19 shutdown is the purpose of a \$10,000 grant. The YMCA provided childcare at 4 sites in the community.

**St. Joseph Community Health Foundation** – Providing therapeutic assessments for Status Offender Court Alternative program (SOCAP) clients who do not have health insurance is the purpose of a \$1,500 grant. Assessments help Y staff to better identify needs and provide more effective services.

**Sledd Foundation** – Providing emergency childcare for healthcare and essential workers during the COVID-19 closures is the purpose of a \$20,000 grant from the Sledd Foundation through the PNC Charitable Trusts Grant Review Committee. The YMCA provided childcare at 4 sites in the community.

**Valero Energy Foundation** – Promoting children's development is the purpose of a \$15,000 donation from the Valero Energy Foundation as part of the 2019 Benefit for Children. These funds will help us to provide families in Wells County with quality child care through the Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA's Early Learning Center and Before and After 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, Director of Mission Advancement, at 260.918.2144 or [Nicole\\_Hansen@fwymca.org](mailto:Nicole_Hansen@fwymca.org).