



STRENGTHENING DELAWARE

YMCA OF DELAWARE 100 West 10th Street | Suite 1100 | Wilmington, Delaware 19801 | ymcade.org

SUMMER 2018

SERVING DELAWARE BY ADVANCING OUR MISSION OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT, HEALTHY LIVING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Dear Friends,

Another busy season is upon us.

I'm pleased to share that over the last few months, we have moved closer and closer to hitting our Annual Campaign goal of \$2 million dollars to support individuals and families in the communities that we serve. This is good news, but there is still much work that needs to be done.

Some of our key priorities for the rest of 2018 include: finishing the expansion project at our Brandywine YMCA, exploring more land opportunities for a new Y location in Middletown, and further enhancing our adaptive fitness program across the state. Additionally, we are continuing to lay the groundwork for our 2018-2019

Strategic Plan which focuses on strengthening our work in the areas of Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility.

In the meantime, we are also looking forward to the months ahead as we continue to support youth who are participating in our summer camps, Take On Summer program, and Summer Learning Loss prevention initiatives.

As always, I thank you for your continued support of the YMCA of Delaware.

Yours in service,

Deborah Bagatta-Bowles, Chief Executive Officer
dbowles@ymcade.org | 302.571.6907

OUR MISSION

The YMCA of Delaware is an association of people of all ages, ethnic groups and religious affiliations that strives to cultivate the human potential, self-esteem, and dignity of all people. Our organization exists to develop and practice the Christian principles of love, caring, inclusiveness, justice and peace... and to enrich the emotional, physical and social life of all individuals, families and our community.

DID YOU KNOW?



4,941 YOUTH

stayed safe and made lasting memories and friendships at Summer Camp in 2017.



2,068

children were able to attend After School Care and Summer Camp in 2017 thanks to our donors.

PARTNERS IN CHANGE

This past spring, the YMCA of Delaware, the Charter School of New Castle and New Castle County joined forces to announce the launch of an innovative partnership to provide enrichment activities and learning opportunities for 150 youth starting this summer. The \$2 million aggregate grant is the largest programming grant received in the history of New Castle County.

The partnership established a year-round program including a full day summer session and after school programming during the academic year.

During the summer, 150 elementary and middle school students from the Charter School of New Castle will have the opportunity to enjoy a 7-week full day program structured to help combat summer learning loss. Math and language arts instruction, STEM education, reading and literacy support

and character development programming will be offered at the Route 9 Library and Innovation Center. Additionally, students will participate in recreational and character development activities at the Bear-Glasgow and Western YMCA summer day camps.

"Summer day camp at the Y is a fun and unique experience that every child should have an opportunity to enjoy," said Deborah Bagatta-Bowles, President and CEO of the YMCA of Delaware. "Because of our partnership, we will be able to provide more access to recreational and educational activities to keep kids active and healthy all summer long. Summer camp is the perfect place to combat summer learning loss and childhood obesity while children explore the outdoors, meet new friends, discover new interests and create lasting memories."



Campers at the Western Family YMCA enjoy a healthy living class as they learn about the effects of sugar and how to make natural fruit flavored beverages.

BEST SUMMER EVER!



Sussex Family YMCA, Camp Oowassis



Bear-Glasgow Family YMCA, Camp Cassey



Dover YMCA, Camp Voyager



Middletown Family YMCA, Camp Silver Lake



Western Family YMCA, Camp Wassaqu



Brandywine YMCA, Camp Quoowant



YMCA Camp Tockwogh



Walnut Street YMCA, Camp Opalanie



WE RAISED THE ROOF!

The YMCA of Delaware hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony in June to officially open the newly constructed second floor fitness center at the Brandywine YMCA.

Phase two of the project is complete and members are now able to enjoy 19,000 square feet of brand new space which includes a new fitness center, movement studio, new cardio, strength and adaptive fitness equipment, and an outdoor second floor terrace.

“Today marks a major milestone in the

completion of our building expansion project,” said Linda Risk, Executive Director of the Brandywine YMCA. “We will now have a better opportunity to serve all ages and families as well as meet the changing needs of our community. And this is just the beginning as we are still on track to complete the final phase of this project later this year,” Risk added.

The third and final phase has now started and renovations will include another fitness studio, a dedicated cycling room, youth fitness center,

babysitting room, and teen lounge. This project also will allow more space for the Y’s evidence-based programs including Diabetes Prevention, Healthy Weight and Your Child and LIVESTRONG at the YMCA.

The ribbon cutting was well-attended and covered by WDEL News, NBC 10 and 6ABC.

The Brandywine Y provides more than **\$600,000 in financial assistance** each year to help ensure that everyone can enjoy the services the Y offers, regardless of ability to pay.



YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

The YMCA of Delaware celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Youth In Government program at a conference held at Legislative Hall and the Kent County Courthouse in Dover, DE this past Spring. Leading up to the conference, 215 middle and high school students from 14 delegations have been meeting since the beginning of the year to develop legislative bills.

“Our Youth in Government program helps develop life-long, responsible citizenship who become knowledgeable and active in determining the future of our democracy,” said Deborah Bagatta-Bowles, President

and CEO of the YMCA of Delaware. “The experience young people receive in this program has lifelong impact. Together, as a community of volunteers, staff and students, we are truly developing the next generation of leaders.”

To celebrate the 50th year of Youth in Government, Governor Carney made a proclamation. Additionally, Attorney General Matt Denn and Youth in Government alum Sarah McBride were guest speakers during the Governor’s banquet dinner.



Youth in Government participants Justin Duca and Anya Verucci.



Youth Governor, Felicia Flores is sworn in by Delaware Governor, John Carney.





CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF IMPACT

We recently celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the Bear-Glasgow Family YMCA with a dress to impress event that included amazing speakers from our YMCA past and present, silent auction and raffle items and an inspirational video showcasing their impact.

As a nonprofit, community-building charity, we strive to make our programs widely affordable and accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay. Since opening our doors in 2008, we have provided financial assistance to an average of 1,000 individuals and families in the Bear-Glasgow community each year – that’s 10,000 adults, seniors, families, children, youth and teens who have been able to participate in Y programs or receive the benefits of a membership over the last 10 years. Today, we are proud to serve more than 26,000 members each year and look forward to 10 more years of serving our community.



Top: Bear-Glasgow Ground Breaking, 2007

Bottom: Terry Mullan, Executive Director, Bear-Glasgow Y, Lieutenant Governor Bethany Hall-Long, June Griffith-Stepp, first Board Chair, Bear-Glasgow Y

THANK YOU BARCLAYS

Recently Association Board Member Scott Champagne, and other representatives from Barclays, toured the Walnut Street Y and presented a \$100,000 check to support the Youth Workforce Development Program. Thank you Scott and Barclays for your generous donation! We are truly grateful for your continued support and the impact the funding is having on our teens.



Scott Champagne, teens from Walnut Street YMCA, Matt Clements, Heather Craig, Barclays, and Jesus Des Las Salas, Senior Executive Director Central and Walnut St. YMCAs

DELAWARE'S FIRST LADY VISITS WALNUT STREET Y

Tracey Carney, the wife of Governor John Carney, recently took a tour of the Walnut Street YMCA. It was a great opportunity for her to learn more about Walnut Street and see the impact our center is having on hundreds of young people.



Pictured from left to right: Kristina Woznicki, Branch Associate Executive; Deborah Bagatta-Bowles, CEO; Tracey Carney, Jesus De Las Salas, Executive Director of Downtown Ys; and Gail Seitz, Downtown Board Chair.

SAFETY AROUND WATER



Did you know that drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death in children? This past Spring, the Sussex Family YMCA hosted its 14th Annual Water Safety Week which focuses on drowning prevention. This year, more than 1,000 swim lessons were offered to teach life skills, how to have fun in an aquatic environment, and how to stay safe around water. Thank you to the many volunteers who supported the week long event.



MISSION MOMENT: KASPER

Last summer, Kasper participated in summer camp at the Dover YMCA's Kent Outdoor Complex, and he loved it.

At camp, Kasper learned to swim, played sports and created fun memories with new friends. "For the first time Kasper got to spend all day playing outdoors. Each day, he came home exhausted from having so much fun," said Kasper's grandmother. Kasper also loved all the camp staff members, "The counselors here are great. They don't just watch us, they do the activities with us. I want to keep coming back to camp every summer," said Kasper.

"I WANT TO KEEP COMING BACK TO CAMP EVERY SUMMER!"

Each summer about 200 children enroll in the Dover YMCA's summer camp where they learn new skills, make friends and create life long memories.

Thanks to donations to our Annual Campaign, one in three of our campers receive financial support to participate in camp each year. Your support ensures that all children can have the best summer ever!



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