



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GIVE FOR A BETTER US.

You know the challenges that we face in Erie. People of all ages and backgrounds are struggling to reach their full potential. More and more children face seemingly insurmountable learning gaps. Families find it difficult to spend quality time together. Playing outside has become a rarity. Face time happens through a phone. And instead of seeing the income gap shrink, it seems all we do is watch it grow.

But where society falls short, the Y — and donors like you — step in. Together we make a difference in the lives of thousands of people and a huge impact on each individual we serve.

GIVING MADE EASY:

- Online at ymcaerie.org/support/annual campaign.
- Online at eriegives.org for a match only on August 8, 2017.
- Check returned in enclosed envelope.
- Addition to your monthly membership fee.

YMCA of Greater Erie
The Y.™ For a better us.™

FOR SAFE SPACES

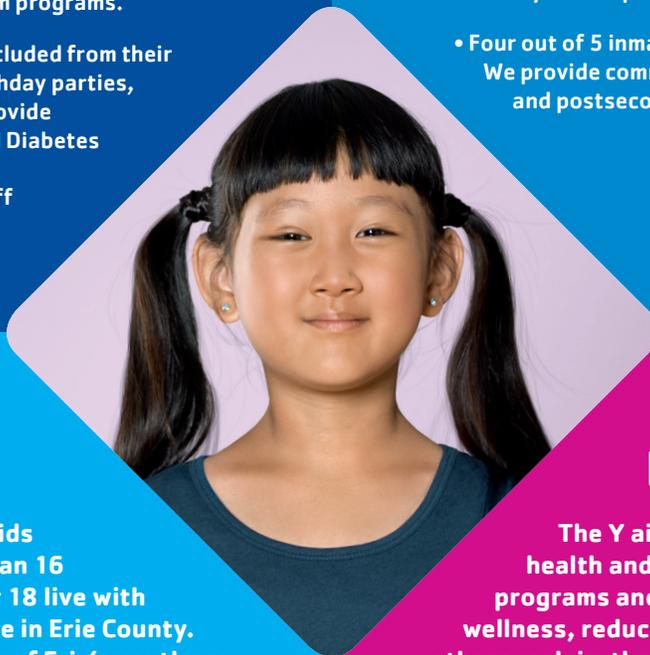
All kids and teens need a safe and productive place to both release energy and discover their true potential. The Y is Erie's community space, providing programs to help youth learn, grow and thrive.

- Only about a half of youth are exposed to the 40 developmental assets, which help prepare them for life and avoid risky and unhealthy behaviors. We provide community-based programming that offers mentorship, academic enrichment, creative expression, positive values and conflict resolution.
- 18 percent of kids in Pennsylvania are responsible for taking care of themselves after school. We provide scholarships for low-income kids wanting to attend after-school enrichment programs.
- Drowning is still the second leading cause of accidental death under age 14. We provide community-based learn-to-swim programs.
- Kids with diabetes often feel excluded from their favorite activities including birthday parties, holidays, and sleepovers. We provide scholarships for youth to attend Diabetes Camp at YMCA Camp Fitch — an inclusive camp with support staff which helps them feel included with their peers.

FOR LEARNING

Research shows that many youth from underserved and low-income families need extra support in reaching their full potential. They often start kindergarten underprepared and fall behind their peers as they progress through school. That "gap," known as the achievement gap, presents not just immediate hurdles for these students, but also long-term challenges for us all.

- 30 percent of third graders in Erie score unproficient in reading. We provide learning programs that lay the foundation for reading readiness through daily reading and language-based skills including vocabulary, letter and sound identification.
- 40 percent of Erie's kids are unprepared for kindergarten. We provide scholarships for low-income kids to attend high-quality preschool at little or no cost, and a community-based program to help caregivers at home.
- Four out of 5 inmates in Erie are high school dropouts. We provide community-based tutoring, job readiness and postsecondary programs for teens.



FOR MEALS FOR KIDS

The Y is committed to keeping kids nourished all year long. More than 16 million children and teens under 18 live with food insecurity — thousands here in Erie County. When the school day ends, many of Erie's youth are at risk of going hungry.

- Erie County has 10 food deserts — areas where access to healthy food is a concern for kids. We provide a mobile meals site for kids — YMCA Food + Fun bus — serving meals right in neighborhoods.
- 30 percent of Erie's kids are overweight or obese. We commit to limiting processed foods and increasing fresh fruit and vegetables in our meals through our program and community based meals sites.

FOR HEALTH

The Y aims to improve our community's health and well-being by providing programs and activities that promote wellness, reduce the risk for disease and help others reclaim their health.

- More than 5,000 veterans in Erie County are currently treated for post-traumatic stress disorder. We provide free wellness programs and Y membership for veterans to help them deal with anxiety and return back to society.
- 15 percent of Erie County's population is over age 65. We provide community-based programs for seniors to help them keep active, prevent illness and stay connected to others.
- 25 percent of families spend less time together and 43 percent don't eat family dinner. We provide community-based programs that strengthen family bonds.