



# **BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES**

YMCA of MEWSA Case for Support 2024

Together, let's change some lives!

We all have moments in our lives that shape who we are, determine what we become. You can help others have such moments too. You can help them have their own transformative experiences, unlock their full potential.

By supporting the Y today—by donating, pledging, or fundraising—you just might have an immediate and positive impact on the life of another.

### **About the YMCA Annual Support Campaign**

We hold the Annual Support Campaign each year to raise money to help people who need financial support in order to participate in Y programs and services involving:

- Safety Around Water
- Physical Health & Wellness
- Youth Enrichment in Mind, Body, and Spirit
- Senior Connections
- Chronic Disease Programming
- Childcare
- Emotional and Mental Health & Wellness

Your participation in the campaign will make it possible for the Y to continue to ensure that no person who might benefit from Y membership or participation is turned away.

Annually, the campaign supports thousands of Middlesex County-area youth, adults, and families by enabling them to participate in character building programs that help them grow, learn, and thrive. Your support not only makes this possible, your support also helps tell the Y's story, and perpetuate the Y's mission.

## About Supporting the YMCA with a Donation

"Since joining the YMCA, my physical activity life has flourished and my mental peace of mind as well."

Jay, YMCA Member

#### Learn more about the Y's impact

Can you—like Jay—recall a pivotal time when the YMCA was there for you?

# About the Y's Great Impact

The Y works to help individuals and families—people of all ages—overcome barriers and achieve more. Through activities involving Youth Development, Healthy Living, or Social Responsibility, the Y commits to:

#### • Making the Y Available To All People

Our programs & memberships are available to all, regardless of ability to afford them.

#### • Teaching Our Children to Swim

Through Safety Around Water (S.A.W.) sites and year-round lessons, we are dedicated to eliminating childhood drowning in Middlesex County.

#### • Strengthening Community Health

Our *LiveStrong* programs for cancer survivors, our *English as a Second Language* tutoring, our *Blood Pressure* self-monitoring, and our *Reset, Regroup and Renew* group for people confronting addictions, are open to all who need them.

#### • Developing Future Leaders

Programs like *Youth In Government*, *Teen Leaders Club*, and *7th Grade Initiative* prepare youth and teens to engage in, contribute to, and lead our communities.

### **Does the Y Need an Annual Support Campaign?**

Yes! And here is why.

When people in our community face urgent need, the YMCA of MEWSA is there to provide support, connection, and a helping hand. Today, that need is greater than ever. Costs today are skyrocketing while the Y is facing deep reductions in public funding. More than ever, we are counting on your support to help us help others. Every dollar counts and no gift amount is too small to make a difference.

The Y's financial assistance program is 100% funded by tax-deductible donations. Membership fees that cover our facilities, salaries, and operations do not fund our financial assistance programs. To make our programs and services available to all, we need the active support of our members, our staff, and our entire community.

### FIND YOUR REASON TO GIVE! Below are some examples:

- \$60 provides swim lessons for one child
- \$140 helps an individual fight chronic disease
- \$310 provides one week of camp for one child
- \$585 provides a month of childcare and greatly helps a single mom
- \$1,044 supports a wellness scholarship for a family for a year
- \$2,500 provides two preschoolers w scholarships for a month at our Early Learning Centers
- \$5,000 funds our Safety Around Water program and other swim scholarships, aimed at preventing drowning and saving lives

For over 100 years the YMCA of MEWSA has served our community and helped serve its needs. We support physical and mental well-being, provide quality childcare, and offer pivotal programs that build skills, character, and friendships. We are committed to continuing to do that, and to making <u>all</u> Y offerings available to <u>all</u> people.