
INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITY

**YMCA OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD
JANUARY 1, 2020 – DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Y FACTS:

We are invested in our community and its members. Each day, we welcome individuals into the YMCA of Greater Springfield facilities where they are doing more than just utilizing a gymnasium. They are taking part in programs that are dedicated to youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility, and bringing those values back to their homes and communities.

Whether we are providing early learning opportunities to our youngest members, keeping children safe and nurtured before/during/after school, providing adventurous summer camp experiences, mentoring and tutoring teens, putting families on the track towards healthy living, or providing a social outlet for members of the community, the YMCA of Greater Springfield provides programs and activities that teach our core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

The values and mission that the YMCA of Greater Springfield has held since 1852 are the ones we continue to follow today. We strive to stay connected and work together with our members, program participants, volunteers, and staff to ensure everyone—regardless of age, income, or background—has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

Despite results from COVID-19 closing our doors for nearly four months and creating limited access to our facilities by following state guidelines and regulations, during 2020, the YMCA of Greater Springfield made some lasting impressions and impacts on the lives of youth, teens, families, and senior citizens throughout the area.

YMCA of GREATER SPRINGFIELD IMPACT 2020: Scholarships

The doors of the YMCA of Greater Springfield are always open to everyone so that they may grow and thrive, regardless of their income level. Promoting personal growth and the balanced development of spirit, mind, and body is at the core of all of our program offerings. To that end, we work diligently to ensure that no one is turned away due to the inability to pay. To accomplish this, we rely on donations from the community, grant funds, and government contracts to provide financial assistance to those who otherwise could not afford to participate in our programs. This is less than half of what we traditionally provide because of our 4 month closure and the hesitation of members to return during the pandemic.

*** \$311,000 in financial assistance provided**

Volunteerism & Community Collaborations

Volunteers and dedicated partners remain steadfast in helping the YMCA of Greater Springfield thrive in the community. Volunteers serve in valuable areas to mobilize our community and implement lasting change. Our partnerships with schools, community organizations, businesses, government agencies, and other nonprofits have allowed us meet

the needs of the communities we serve by offering varied programs and services. To help meet more extensive community needs, meeting and event space also was provided to outside clubs, nonprofits, and community service organizations at little to no charge.

****50 Volunteers shared their time and talent in 2020***

INVESTING IN OUR KIDS, OUR HEALTH AND OUR NEIGHBORS

Each day the YMCA of Greater Springfield strives to strengthen the community through steady leadership and stewardship of our core ideologies to remain caring, honest, respectful, and responsible. How do we do this? Through focusing on three key areas—youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. We are guided by these principles as we invest in our kids, and improve the health and well-being of members of our communities.

Educational Programs

Our two nationally-accredited early learning centers—in Springfield and Wilbraham—provide high-quality early education programs to help nurture the potential of every child and ensure student success for some of our youngest YMCA members.

We offer before-school programs, until the start of the school day, and after-school programs, running from the end of the full school day until 6 p.m. These programs, which are offered to school-age children at over 16 sites (limited during COVID) throughout the region, provide a variety of age-appropriate activities for participants, including sports, arts and crafts, outdoor play, science, story time, cooking, and much more.

****1,200 Children served daily through YMCA learning programs***

Remote Learning Centers

With schools physically closed, families needed a place for their children during the school day hours because they were too young to stay home alone or would not do well academically while isolated alone at home all day. Under our care they were supervised, helped with setting up and breaking down for their school day, fed breakfast-lunch-snack that they would have received if they were in school, provided afterschool homework help and an enjoyable and safe place to be.

****179 Youth participated in our remote learning centers in 2020***

Summer Programs

Long summer days are made even better through YMCA of Greater Springfield day camps, offered at Camp Weber in West Springfield and Stony Brook Acres in Wilbraham. These traditional day camps help youth gain an appreciation for the outdoors and develop relationships and skills that will last a lifetime. The YMCA provides summer enrichment activities at additional locations during the summer months: the Downtown YMCA and the North End Youth Center. Due to COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions from the state, we were limited on the number of youth we could serve and Camp Weber could not open for the 2020 summer season.

****217 Youth and teens were enrolled in summer camp programs during 2020***

Y-AIM/Teen Programs

Y-AIM (Achieve academically, Inspire to attend college, and Move toward personal growth) provides talented, underachieving, at-risk youth in middle and high school with a dedicated support system throughout those integral educational years to help ensure successes like graduating high school, attending college, and finding gainful employment. The YMCA of Greater Springfield works together with Springfield Public Schools (including 5 high schools and five middle schools), the United Way of Pioneer Valley, Big Y Foods, MassMutual, and



other area business partners to help youth become motivated, ambitious, and productive through the Y-AIM programs, including the Teen Advisory Board, Youth & Government, Leaders Club, and more.

***318 Youth served in Y-AIM outreach locations for after-school support**

***100% (29) high school seniors in the program graduated in 2020**

Emergency Child Care

The establishment of child care for first responders and essential service workers was critical to keep parents working while meeting their child care needs. The YMCA chose to serve the community by opening centers in Springfield and Wilbraham for this purpose.

***102 Youth were under our emergency child care in 2020**

Wellness Programs

Health and wellness are important aspects to the development of spirit, mind and body. At the YMCA of Greater Springfield, we work to teach children and adults to value their health and appreciate what their bodies can do. We strive to help them achieve their health and wellness goals through a variety of programs, as well as use of our pools, gyms, wellness centers, group exercise classes, personal training sessions, nutrition seminars, and expertise and care of our professional wellness staff.

***More than 12,000 members/participants benefitted from our wellness services**

Aquatics Programs

For more than 100 years, the Y has served as America's leading swim instructor. We're proud to still offer top-notch instruction, as well as recreational and specialty programs for all ages and abilities, including parent-child classes, preschool/youth swim lessons, water exercise, and lifeguard training courses. Many graduates of our lifeguard program go on to work at the YMCA, public pools, camps, and recreational facilities in the area.

*** 603 Youth were taught swimming lessons in 2020**

LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA

LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA is a life-changing program that provides a wellness outlet to adult cancer survivors dealing with the lingering effects of treatment. The 12-week offering consists of small group exercise classes and lifestyle programming at no cost to the participant.

*** 637 LIVESTRONG graduates since the program started in 2010**

Active Older Adults

From aquatics and group exercise classes to meet & greets, our senior citizens take full advantage of the offerings at the Y, ensuring opportunities to connect with others and participate in meaningful social activities throughout the area.

*** 1,585 Active Older Adult members in 2020**

Veterans & Military Families

Our Veterans and Military Families also take full advantage of the offerings at the Y, ensuring opportunities to connect with others and participate in meaningful social activities throughout the area.

*** 1,576 Veterans & Military Family members in 2020**