



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

YMCA of Dodge County STRONG KIDS ANNUAL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

What is the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign?

- The Strong Kids Campaign allows our YMCA to offer kids and families in need the chance to make positive and healthy choices in their lives.
- Charitable gifts provide scholarships for individuals and families who want and need YMCA programs but may not otherwise be able to afford them. These programs include day camp, child care, youth sports, water safety, before and afterschool care, and summer camp.

Whom does the YMCA Strong Kids Campaign benefit?

- The Strong Kids campaign allows children, and men and women of all ages to participate in YMCA programs they otherwise might not be able to afford. The YMCA welcomes all, regardless of age, gender, religion, physical ability or income.
- At the YMCA, one of our most important goals has always been to enrich the lives of kids in our community. Kids develop self-confidence, learn values for the future, and grow up stronger and healthier by participating in YMCA programs.
- YMCA programs teach young people important values such as caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Through a variety of fun and rewarding activities, they also develop valuable skills while they gain confidence and self-esteem.

Why does the YMCA have an annual support campaign?

- Our annual support campaign helps us achieve the YMCA's basic mission of improving and enhancing the lives of all members, their families and the community. 100% of all contributions go back to support the program.
- By contributing to our campaign, you are making an investment in the future. YMCA programs teach young people important values such as caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Through a variety of fun and rewarding activities, kids also develop valuable skills while increasing confidence and self-esteem and learning values for the future.
- These gifts make it possible to provide opportunities to children, individuals and families that build self-confidence, promote health and develop positive values such as caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.
- These gifts provide scholarships for individuals and families who want and need YMCA programs but cannot afford them. The YMCA provides needed opportunity in programs such as day camp, child care, youth sports, water safety, before and afterschool care, and summer camp.

How can I help support the campaign?

- Donations can be made On-Line at our website, www.ymcaofdodgecounty.org or in person at our YMCA Welcome Center. If you are interested in volunteering for our campaign or our YMCA, please contact Jen Krueel at 920-887-8811.

Is my contribution tax deductible?

- Yes, the YMCA is a charitable, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization providing services throughout the community. Your financial contribution, which is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law, allows us to continue providing these needed services to families and children throughout the area. Always check with your tax professional regarding your YMCA charitable contribution and its tax deductible status.

Can gifts be made over the course of a year?

- Yes, for many, a pledge is the preferred way to make a generous gift. It allows one to pay later or spread their payments out over a period of time. Pledges can be paid monthly, quarterly, semiannually or in one lump sum later in the year. Please contact your local YMCA to discuss these and other payment options.

How much of what is contributed stays in this community?

- All of it! All contributed dollars are used for programs in the communities served by the YMCA as indicated by the donor.

Who decides how contributions are to be used?

- Volunteer board members, people who live and work in this area, approve the annual operating budget and regularly monitor revenues and expenses over the course of each fiscal year.

Why does the YMCA charge fees for its programs?

- It is the philosophy of the YMCA that those who can afford to support the cost should pay a fee, and those who cannot should be provided with assistance. This allows the YMCA to offer a much wider range of programs than it could if it relied solely on contributions. Annual support contributions make it possible for people to participate regardless of their ability to pay
- It is empowering for people to pay something, even a couple of dollars, toward their program or membership, and most people want to do so.

May I visit the programs that you are asking me to support?

- Yes, donors are welcome to visit our program sites. We will gladly arrange a tour of programs that may be of interest to you.

What is the YMCA (what makes the YMCA unique)?

- The nation's 2,686 YMCAs respond to critical social needs by drawing on our collective strength as of one of the largest not-for-profit community service organizations in the United States.
- Today's YMCAs serve thousands of U.S. communities, uniting 21 million children and adults of all ages, races, faiths, backgrounds, abilities and income levels. Our reach and impact can be seen in the millions of lives we touch every year.
- YMCAs are committed to helping:

- Children and youth deepen positive values, their commitment to service and their motivation to learn;
 - Families build stronger bonds, spend time together and become more engaged with their communities; and
 - Individuals strengthen their spiritual, mental and physical well-being.
- At every stage of life, YMCAs are there to help children, families and individuals reach their full potential.
- YMCAs are collectively the nation's largest providers of health and well-being programs.
- 64 million households and 32 million children ages 14 and under live within three miles of a YMCA, while 1,518 YMCAs serve communities where the median family income is below the U.S. average.