

BUILDING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

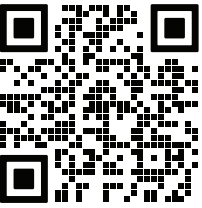


Opening doors for all people
to achieve their goals, build
relationships, and find a
sense of belonging.

2025-2026
ANNUAL REPORT



175 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



SUPPORT THE Y

FUNDRAISING

Every gift to the Y is more than a number—it's a powerful reminder to someone in our community that they matter.

These generous contributions create opportunities for a child to feel included on a team, a teen to find a mentor who believes in them, and an individual to feel welcomed and supported as they change their habits. When people feel valued, they grow in confidence, connection and purpose.

Through your generosity, we're able to build a community where all people are seen, supported and given the chance to thrive.

2025

\$84,062
provided for 105
childcare scholarships

\$296,402
in scholarships awarded
to 8,100 members

\$380,464
in total financial
assistance provided

Dear YMCA Community,

This past year has been a powerful reminder that we are stronger together. At the Erie YMCA, our ability to advance our mission—strengthening community through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility—has been fueled by meaningful partnerships that expand our reach and deepen our impact.

We are especially grateful for the collaboration of organizations such as the Montessori Regional Charter School, Fairview United Methodist Church, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest PA, the City of Erie, and the United Way of Erie County. These partnerships have allowed us to meet emerging community needs with care, creativity, and shared purpose—ensuring more individuals and families feel they belong and can thrive.

Together, we have celebrated significant growth in membership and programs, reflecting a renewed commitment to health and connection across our community. We are proud to serve more older adults each day, supporting their well-being and social engagement. Hundreds of children gained life-saving skills and confidence through swim lessons, while our youth sports programs continued to build teamwork, character, and sportsmanship—helping young people grow into leaders both on and off the field.

While challenges persist in our community, the Erie YMCA remains a place where people can turn for support, opportunity, and hope. Our mission calls us to respond with compassion and responsibility, and we are honored to serve in that role.

None of this work would be possible without the dedication of our staff and volunteers, whose passion brings our mission to life every day. We also extend our deepest thanks to our partners and supporters for walking alongside us in this journey of impact.

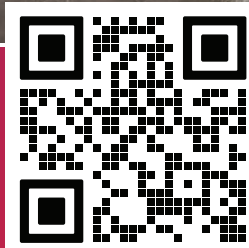
Together, we are building a stronger, more connected Erie—where everyone has the opportunity to achieve, relate, and belong.

With gratitude,

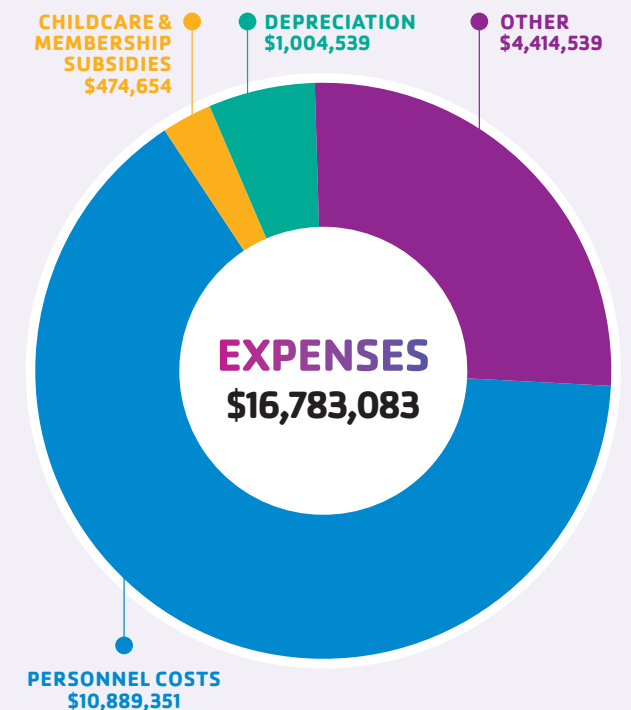
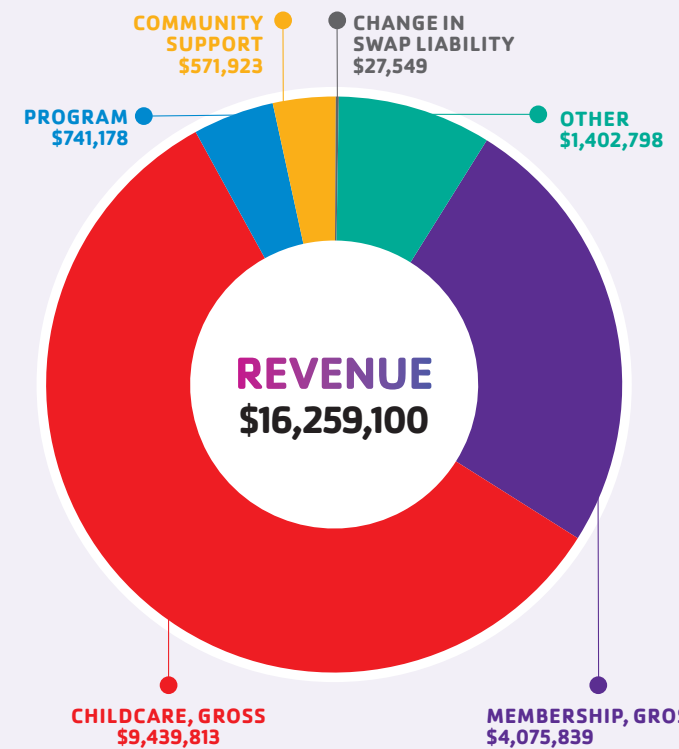
Jim McEldowney
Chief Executive Officer



Scan here to see
how the Y has built
community across the
U.S. for 175 years.



2024 FINANCIALS



SCHOLARSHIPS

Membership	\$395,312
Childcare	\$79,342
TOTAL.....	\$474,654

A PLACE TO BELONG

A family new to the United States discovers community through swim lessons

Mohamad, his wife Kawthar, and their four children, are originally from Syria but left to live in Jordan when the war started. After 10 years there, they came to the United States for safety and opportunity for their family. The move has brought a lot of change for the Alwan family, but it has also brought them a new sense of community at the YMCA.

Through a scholarship, Mohamad and Kawthar's older children have learned to swim and play soccer. Their youngest daughter Ayla, age 2, is already experiencing the water and enjoying pool time with her dad.

Mohamad says the Y feels like a family. "The people here are beautiful. Sometimes I'm at work, so my wife brings the children. This is a safe space, I don't worry about them. The Y is like a family," Mohamad says. "Like my family."



Scan Here to watch the Alwan Family's full story.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

The measurable difference we're making—together



2,101

children served in swim lessons

3,477

children played in youth sports

472

children served in Safety Around Water (Drowning Prevention) programs

106

childcare scholarships provided in the amount of \$84,062

600

children served in Summer Day Camp

8,100

members received a scholarship, totaling \$296,402

FINDING THEIR PLACE

Young people are finding – and building – belonging at the YMCA Teen Center

Isaiah is building confidence—staying active and forming new friendships that keep him coming back. Armani is discovering her love of music, building creative skills that support her dream of becoming a sports photographer. And after moving to Erie, Zakhi found more than a new city—he found a place where he feels safe, welcomed and connected.

Their experiences are different, but through the YMCA Teen Center they share something powerful: a space where they can be themselves and grow into their full potential.

Through five key focus areas—Creative Arts and Expression, Health and Wellbeing, Recreation and Social Groups, Educational Support, and Personal and Professional Development—the Teen Center supports the whole person and opens doors to new opportunities.

In this video, teens share what this community means to them—in their own words. They talk about their interests, the challenges they've faced and the importance of having trusted people to turn to. Just as importantly, they reflect on how they help create that same sense of community for others who walk through the doors. Because at the Y, a sense of belonging isn't just something you find—it's something you help build.



Scan Here to watch the teens' full story.



ESSENTIAL SUPPORT

Providing care, nourishment, and support where it matters most



1,326

children served in Early Learning and School-Age Care

474

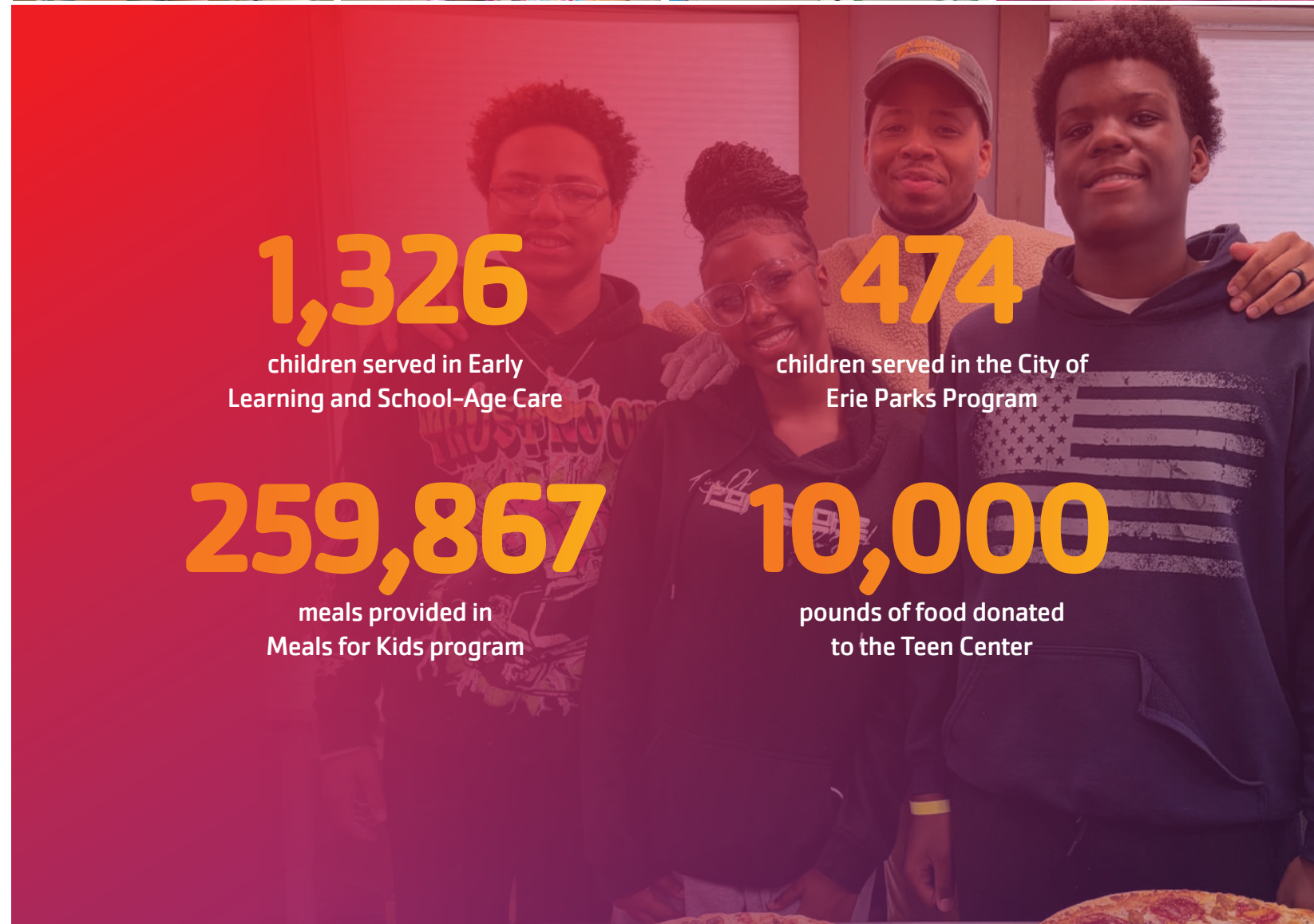
children served in the City of Erie Parks Program

259,867

meals provided in Meals for Kids program

10,000

pounds of food donated to the Teen Center



BEYOND WORDS

A special volunteer brings joy and connection to YMCA members

Jake greets members with a smile that's easy to recognize, even before any other communication is exchanged. As a YMCA volunteer, Jake has become a joyful and welcoming presence—someone people look for when they walk through the doors.

But conversations with Jake happen a little differently—often through gestures, shared effort and growing sign language skills. Jake is deaf, but his connections with staff and members go far beyond words. Over time, those interactions have inspired others to learn, to slow down and to connect in new ways. What starts as a simple exchange often turns into something more meaningful—a moment of understanding, a shared laugh, a relationship built by patience and affection.

Among those connections is a special friendship with a single dad that has brought consistency, companionship and meaning to them both. It's a reflection of how relationships take shape at the Y—organically, authentically and – often – at just the right time.

Learn more about Jake's journey and how this friendship has changed both their lives for the better.



Scan Here to watch Jake's full story.



ACTIVE COMMUNITY

People showing up, giving back, and staying active together



223
volunteers

6,700
hours of group fitness
on land

1,480
hours of Older Active Adults (AOA)
events and programs
(outside of classes)

4,871
volunteer hours

943
hours of group fitness
in the water



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Amplifying the Y's Mission

Over the past year, community partnerships, support and advocacy have deepened the YMCA's impact in ways that would not have been possible alone. These collaborations have expanded opportunities for children to play, teens to learn, seniors to connect and families to thrive.

These efforts not only strengthened individual outcomes, they amplified our mission and created a greater sense of belonging across our community.

We offer a special "Thank You" to everyone who has worked alongside the YMCA of Greater Erie to build a better us.



Aetna
Akin Insurance/United Health Care
Altman-Hall Associates
American Heart Association
American Tinning & Galvanizing Company
Art's Bakery
Barber National Institute
City of Erie
Classy 100
County Executive Christina Vogel
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Dick's Sporting Goods
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Erie Cancer Wellness Center
Erie City Mission
Erie Community Foundation
Erie County Department of Health
Erie County Gaming Rev Authority
Erie County Redevelopment Authority
Erie Downtown Development Corporation
Erie Downtown Partnership

Erie High School Career & Technical Education Dept.
Erie Homes for Children & Adults
Erie Institute of Taekwondo
Erie Insurance
Erie Mayor Daria Devlin
Erie News Now/WICU/WSEE
Erie Playhouse
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership
Erie's Public Schools
Erie United Methodist Alliance
Experience Children's Museum
Fairview School District
Family Services of Erie Big Brothers Big Sisters
First National Bank
French Creek Scout Council
Gannon University
General McLane School District
Goodell Gardens & Homestead
Grandview Manor
Harborcreek Township Supervisors
Harborcreek Manor Care
Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield
Hose Company 27/Fairfield Fire Dept.

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Iroquois School District
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L.L. Bean
LifeWise Academy
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McGill Power Bell & Associates LLP
Mercyhurst University
Millcreek Township School District
Millcreek Township Supervisors
Montessori Regional Charter School
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Northwest Bank
PA Dept of Community & Economic Development
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Rebich Investments
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State Representative Ryan Bizzarro (PA-3)
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Susan Hirt Hagen Center for Community Outreach, Research, and Evaluation (CORE)
South Erie Turners
TalkErie
The Nonprofit Partnership
United Way of Erie County
UPMC Health Plan
U.S. Representative Mike Kelly (PA-16)
Wabtec Transportation
Wegmans Markets
Widget Financial
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YourErie/WJET/WFXP

RECOGNIZING OUR DONORS

YMCA HERITAGE CLUB MEMBERS

The following individuals have made a lasting investment in our community through their commitment to the YMCA Endowment Fund. Below is a partial list of members, as some prefer to remain anonymous.

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Bob* and Betty* Kilgore	

*denotes deceased

The YMCA makes every effort to ensure that each contributor's name is listed properly. If your name was omitted, listed incorrectly or misspelled, we offer our sincere apologies and ask you to advise us of corrections by calling (814) 452-1432 ext. 1252.

YMCA CHAIR'S ROUNDTABLE

Recognition of donors contributing \$500 or more to the Y from Jan. 1, 2025-April 1, 2026.

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OUR MISSION

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

OUR FOCUS

Youth Development
Healthy Living
Social Responsibility

OUR CAUSE

To strengthen
community

YMCA OF GREATER ERIE
31 W. 10th Street
Erie, PA 16501
ymcaerie.org



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY