



The Charitable Nature of the YMCA: Beyond our Walls

To put Christian principles into practice...

Strong Kids Campaign

Our mission statement says that the YMCA will "...put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all." It is the "for all" part that is addressed directly by our annual Strong Kids campaign. The YMCA is like any other organization in terms of having fees and costs associated with the services we provide because there are costs associated with providing those services. However, the YMCA also says that we will provide those services "for all". Not just for those that can afford it. Not just for those with the right job. Not just for those who know the right people. Not just for those who live in the right neighborhood, or are of the right religion, race, or political party! It is simply for ALL. Everyone. So, our charity starts right here with over \$200,000 worth of membership and program fees waived every year for people that could not otherwise afford it. But it doesn't end there. Check out some other less known aspects of our charitable nature...

The charitable nature of the YMCA is such an integral part of our organization and so ingrained in how we operate that we don't even think about it. However, we feel it is important for our community to have a better understanding of this part of how the YMCA achieves it's mission. This list is not exhaustive, but it is representative of our free outreach to other agencies and organizations.

Bridges Outreach; Bridges to College

Bridges Outreach exists to bridge communities, schools, and churches through programming that feeds, tutors, and mentors at-risk youth. Bridges Outreach creates windows of opportunity for youth with hopes of developing each student academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. Our high school program, "Bridges To College" (BTC) meets at the YMCA four times a week throughout the school year with no charge for it's own dedicated space.

"...Bridges will have 90 students come to our BTC program this year at the Y ...We can reach out to more youth and develop them holistically because the Y cares about our mission so much."

*Travis Taflinger
Chief Professional Officer
Bridges Outreach*

Kokomo Rescue Mission

Over the past several years, the YMCA has allowed residents at the Kokomo Rescue Mission that are a part of the "New Life" program to utilize the YMCA for membership purposes. It is a continuing part of the KRM clients process in committing to find work, find a church home, and to integrate fully into society.

Kokomo HUDDLE

Kokomo HUDDLE was founded in 2004 by five men with a heart for God and a desire to share His love with other men. HUDDLE is a weekly Bible study that focuses on biblical teaching and fellowship and encouragement for the nearly 170 men that come each Wednesday. The mission is to "grow, strengthen, and encourage men to know Jesus Christ and make Him known in our community." The

"HUDDLE couldn't reach the men it does if it weren't for the YMCA's generous contribution...The YMCA is the perfect place for HUDDLE and to draw men to Christ, and it absolutely wouldn't happen if the YMCA did not invest in us like they do!"

*Dick Sanburn
Board of Directors
Kokomo HUDDLE*

YMCA has been the home of HUDDLE since it's inception; providing space, storage, maintenance, and office help to the ministry.

Coordinated Assistance Ministries (CAM)

CAM provides, programs, services and support to the homeless in Howard County. The YMCA has partnered with CAM for many years to allow their clients to come and take showers at our facility. All clients are screened through the Indiana SOR (as our members are), and for many, the showers they get here are the only ones they will get.

Bona Vista

The YMCA has had an agreement with Bona Vista for several years which allows for staff of Bona Vista to bring their clients into the YMCA to participate in activities and to exercise. We have also provided assistance with vocational training as Bona Vista brings some of their clients in here to get hands-on training by volunteering to do work around the YMCA under the supervision of Bona Vista staff.

Various Organizations & Agencies

The YMCA routinely donates between 20-40 full annual or partial year memberships to a wide variety of other non-profit agencies and organizations throughout Howard County. These memberships are generally auctioned to raise money for those other agencies. The value of those memberships is between \$10,000—\$20,000. In addition, many schools, churches, and child care programs utilize our Camp Tycony property, at no charge, for nature events and programs for students.

Family Services Association of Howard County

The Family Service Association's mission is to serve

"...The YMCA has been and continues to support us by giving free memberships to our most needy clients. These clients come to the Shelter with mainly the clothes on their back. These memberships have allowed these clients to have a place to find refuge and peace in the midst of their storms..."

*Judy Dennis
Executive Director
Family Service Association*

vulnerable families through prevention and crisis intervention programs. This includes many different programs and services including the Domestic Violence Program and Shelter. The YMCA has offered those whose lives have been disrupted by domestic violence and have sought refuge in the FSA shelter to utilize the services and programs of

the YMCA since approximately 2005.

Kokomo Center Schools; Early Headstart Fatherhood Program

The YMCA offers program space for Fatherhood program coordinator Guy Lovell to bring his "fathers" for social interaction as well as the development of healthy lifestyle choices. The program is designed to help men become better fathers and husbands.