

IMPRESSIONS OF IMPACT THE YMCA OF GREATER HARTFORD 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

6 MEMBERSHIP BRANCHES

2 OVERNIGHT CAMPS

13 DAY CAMPS

28 CHILD DEVELOPMENT SITES

4 PROGRAM BRANCHES

52 communities served

OUR CAUSE 65,000

youth and adults engaged with the Y through programs and facility memberships.

Close to

\$1,000,000

distributed in financial assistance to give more people access to Y programs and memberships.

Nearly **1,000**

volunteers.

Nearly **3,000**

supporters invested in their community with a donation to the Y.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

24,000^{*} youth experiences

through leadership activities and academic support in child and youth development programs.

Over

15,000[°] camp opportunities where youth made friends, stayed active, and learned life skills.

HEALTHY LIVING

Over 4,200°

people learned the life-saving skill of swimming.

9,000 senior members participated in programs, increasing physical activity and social interaction.

More than 44,000

meals or snacks were served to youth enrolled in preschool, summer camp, and after-school programs in Hartford, East Hartford, Putnam, and Rockville.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

^{over}**7,500***

teens had a safe place to go and a caring adult role model by participating in Y programs.

Over

85

individuals participated in adaptive fitness programs, helping those with a physical disability achieve positive health outcomes.

 Indicates duplicated participants enrolled in multiple program sessions.





Peter Olson, Board Chair, left, with Harold Sparrow, President and CEO

How do organizations like ours bear the weight of so many important responsibilities? After all, among those obligations are assuring financial sustainability, maintaining extraordinary staffing, developing exceptional program experiences, and keeping our facilities in the best possible condition.

There's only one way to do it: by ensuring we have a strong foundation. Without that, we could easily find ourselves in organizational quicksand.

So the question becomes: just what constitutes a strong foundation?

For one thing, we need employees and volunteers whose personal attributes make the difference between average accomplishments and extraordinary ones. Today, with a strong, consolidated group of volunteers and staff members with roles and responsibilities that have been clarified and reinforced, that's exactly what we have. For another, we require a solid approach that, with strength and precision, supports our vision. Toward that end, we developed a formidable strategic plan, strengthened our bylaws, and challenged our leaders and volunteers to re-examine how we collaborate with external partners

Prior to 2023, we started to notice cracks and vulnerabilities in our footing. But instead of patching it here and there and hoping for the best, we decided to use it as an opportunity. Metaphorically speaking, we grabbed a sledge hammer and started over again. Not only did we rebuild, we reinvented. We reenvisioned the Y. We transformed. It was an incentive to take a hard look at our operations, needs, costs, and challenges, reassess our goals, guidelines, and approaches, and consider new projects and partners.

Here are just a few of our top initiatives, which benefit dozens of Y programs, from life skills and adaptive fitness, to youth and child development.

Our alliance with Ellis Technical High School in Danielson, CT, which teaches practical skills in masonry, carpentry, and other valuable trades, resulted in some tremendous improvements at Camp Woodstock, including a new patio and retaining wall near the lake. Dozens of youngsters were exceedingly proud of what they accomplished.

While we've worked with the national BellXcel program (Building Educated Leaders for Life) for several years, 2023 was the year in which the partnership blossomed, particularly at our Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford, and Indian Valley branches. BellXcel was created to assure that over the summer break, children would be able to continue to learn math and literacy, as well as to have options to be involved with music, drama, and other artistic endeavors.

Interactive parent/child classes were reinforced in East Hartford, Farmington Valley, Glastonbury, Hale, Indian Valley, Tri-Town, West Hartford, Wheeler, and Wilson-Gray. Story time, crafts, free play, and other fun and creative endeavors for children 18 months through five years old were among the highlights. We had many open and vibrant discussions on YMCA issues and challenges not only among ourselves, but also with such entities as the Hartford Police Department on safety and the East Hartford mayor's office on child development. In the latter case, the new administration changed zoning laws to accommodate community needs, one benefit of which was an agreement to let us open and operate a new childcare center at the East Hartford Y.

There are many additional successes, events, programs, and improvements rising from our new organizational footing that you'll hear about as the year progresses. With a stronger foundation, the possibilities of what we put on top of it can be bigger, brighter, and more ambitious than anything that was there before. But that takes teamwork. So let's stick together and continue to evolve the Y into an organization of which we will all be proud.



Peter Olson Board Chair

Harold Sparrow President and CEO

¿Cómo cargan con el peso de tantas responsabilidades importantes las organizaciones como la nuestra? Después de todo, entre esas obligaciones está garantizar la estabilidad financiera, mantener un personal extraordinario, desarrollar experiencias excepcionales a través de los programas y mantener nuestras instalaciones en las mejores condiciones posibles.

Hay solo una forma de hacerlo: asegurándonos de tener bases sólidas. Sin eso, fácilmente podríamos estar en encontrarnos en arenas movedizas organizativas.

Por lo tanto, la pregunta es ¿en qué consiste una base sólida? Por un lado, necesitamos empleados y voluntarios con atributos personales que marquen la diferencia entre logros promedio y extraordinarios. Hoy, es exactamente lo que tenemos, con un grupo fuerte y consolidado de voluntarios y miembros del personal con roles y responsabilidades claras y reforzadas. Por otro lado, necesitamos un enfoque sólido que, con fuerza y precisión, respalde nuestra visión. Con ese fin, desarrollamos un formidable plan estratégico, fortalecimos nuestros estatutos, y desafiamos a nuestros líderes y voluntarios para que reexaminen cómo colaboramos con socios externos. Antes de 2023, comenzamos a notar grietas y vulnerabilidades en nuestros cimientos. Sin embargo, en vez de emparcharlas aquí y allá y cruzar los dedos, decidimos verlas como una oportunidad. Metafóricamente, las demolimos y comenzamos de cero. No solo reconstruimos, sino también reinventamos. Volvimos a concebir YMCA. Nos transformamos. Fue un incentivo para mirar detenidamente nuestras operaciones, necesidades, costos y desafíos, revaluar nuestros objetivos, lineamientos y abordajes, y considerar proyectos v socios nuevos.

Estas son solo algunas de nuestras iniciativas principales, que benefician a docenas de programas de YMCA, desde las habilidades para la vida y la aptitud física adaptativa, hasta el desarrollo de los jóvenes y niños.

Nuestra alianza con Ellis Technical High School de Danielson, Connecticut, que enseña habilidades prácticas como la albañilería, la carpintería y otros oficios valiosos, resultó en mejoras extraordinarias en Camp Woodstock, incluidos un nuevo patio y un muro de contención cerca del lago. Docenas de jóvenes se llenaron de orgullo por lo que habían logrado.

Ya habíamos trabajado durante muchos años con el programa nacional BellXcel (Building Educated Leaders for Life, Construyendo líderes educados para la vida). Pero 2023 fue el año en que esa sociedad floreció, particularmente en nuestras sedes de Hartford, East Hartford, West Hartford e Indian Valley. BellXcel se creó para garantizar que, durante el receso de verano, los niños pudieran seguir aprendiendo matemática y lengua, además de tener opciones para participar en música, teatro y otras actividades artísticas.

Se reforzaron las clases interactivas para padres e hijos en East Hartford, Farmington Valley, Glastonbury, Hale, Indian Valley, Tri-Town, West Hartford, Wheeler y Wilson-Gray. Narración, manualidades, juego libre y otras actividades creativas y divertidas para niños de 18 meses a 5 años estuvieron entre las más destacadas.

Tuvimos muchos debates abiertos y animados sobre asuntos y desafíos de YMCA. No solo debatimos entre nosotros sino también con entidades como el Departamento de Policía de Hartford acerca de la seguridad y con el despacho del alcalde de East Hartford sobre el desarrollo infantil. En el último caso, la nueva administración modificó leyes zonales para satisfacer las necesidades de la comunidad. Entre los beneficios estuvo un acuerdo para dejarnos abrir y operar un nuevo centro de cuidado infantil en la sede de YMCA de East Hartford.

Hay muchos más éxitos, eventos, programas y mejoras que nacen de nuestros fundamentos organizativos y de los que escuchará hablar a lo largo del año. Con cimientos más sólidos, lo que podemos construir sobre ellos puede ser más grande, brillante y ambicioso que cualquier cosa que haya habido antes. Pero eso implica trabajo en equipo. Por lo tanto, unámonos y sigamos haciendo evolucionar a YMCA para que se convierta en una organización de la que todos estemos orgullosos.



"Amanda Feliciano, Director of Youth Impact, has been at the Y for seven years and with BellXcel for four. "I love the sense of discovery, joy, and wonder of all my kids," she says. "That's a gift to me."

Building The BellXcel from and enrichmen students is a g avoid losing va and development typically what is out. One fail The BellXcel free summer learning and enrichment program for K-5 students is a great way for kids to avoid losing valuable midyear learning and development time, which is typically what happens when school is out. One family at the Wilson-Gray branch in Hartford has benefited tremendously because of the on-site peace-of-mind it offers, the financial assistance it provides, and the happy kids it sends back home. Twelveyear-old Alexander and eight-year-old Elizabeth enjoy the fun, while mom Veronica and dad Kwame appreciate the support.



"Families need options," Veronica says. "Programs like BellXcel positively impact the entire family. Having a safe space for our children is important, and so is being where they can blend with people of different backgrounds."

Alex has a hard time picking his favorite activity—so instead he mentions several, including creative writing, cooking, and scurrying around on a beloved speedy toy scooter.

Elizabeth didn't have to think too long to come up with the thing she likes most about BellXcel: "I'm never lonely," is her quick, genuine, and earnest response.



As imperative as individual studies and activities are, Kwame points out that the highly-committed staff is just as integral to its success. "They make the program!" he says gratefully.



"Out of necessity comes innovation," shares Woodstock executive director Tony Gronski. "Ellis Tech taught us we can accomplish a lot for the camp while their students continue to learn. It's a win-win."



CAMP

"Students like to show friends and relatives what they've accomplished," says Ellis masonry instructor Elliott Hayden. "We've been called back many times, and that's proof enough of our accomplishments."

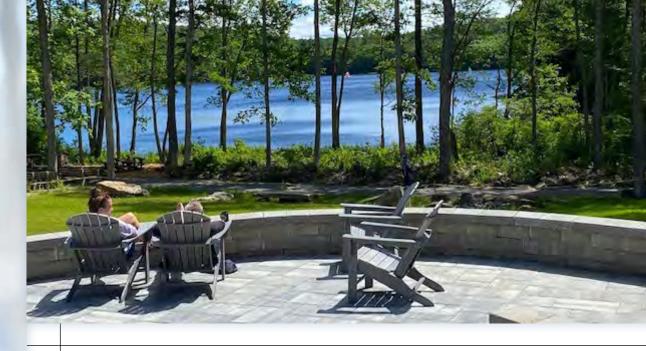
Instructor Hayden is proud of the young women in the masonry program who, though in the minority, make their ingenuity a major factor in the class's success.





" enjoyed the teamwork that always led to successful projects," recalls Ellis graduate Elijah, now an 18-year-old union apprentice. He's a fan of collaboration, hard work—and a good foundation!

Nick, a 17-year-old masonry student, loves the Woodstock-Ellis partnership. "It's awesome how much there is at this camp," he says, "and it's great to see how much my classmates and I have helped."



Building

undamentals

ELLIS TEC

Camp Woodstock found a terrific way to strengthen its structural integrity while at the same time supporting the Y's goal to build valuable partnerships. The camp has a working relationship with Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School in Danielson, CT in which students take what they learn about masonry and, under professional supervision by their instructor, create retaining walls, stairways, patios, and more. While the camp benefits from masonry know-how, the students continue to acquire trade expertise for their future careers.



Ellis students, will have "a lot of Woodstock in their portfolios," notes instructor Hayden.



The Wheeler branch in Plainville

Building The Wheeler bio offers a decisiv for adaptive fit three reasons overall feeling understanding every wall of it rooms. Anothe motivation of offers a decisive innovation for adaptive fitness. There are three reasons for that. One, the overall feeling of acceptance and understanding that reverberates off every wall of its gym and activity rooms. Another, the incredible motivation of its memebers with physical challenges. And the third, its incredible staff, one of whom has firsthand knowledge of such challenges. Wellness Director Paul Weiland, born with cerebral palsy, sums it up well when he says about the Access & Ability program, "There's a paradigm shift taking place here!"









"This is the program," declares Greg without a moment's hesitation when asked about Adaptive Fitness at Wheeler. A busy guy, Greg, who developed a rare spinal cord virus as a child, works in the financial services industry, is planning his wedding, and trains at the Y as often as possible. "It's more than just working out," he says. "It's being entirely functional."

Exercise physiologist Christy Bosley says that one of the most important tools to run Adaptive Fitness is paying attention to what participants say about themselves and the program. "I truly listen to them and try to relate their comments to whatever challenges I may have of my own," she shares. "Being relatable is a key to our success."



Paul, a licensed adaptive fitness instructor, knows that "knowledge is power," which is why he works hard to share his view that reaching for maximum ability is the highest form of self-respect. "Without this program," he says, "many people would lack the tools they need to become the people they truly are inside."



2023 Association Highlights

Raised more
than \$2.5 million
through theAdopted a
new Strategi
Plan; Roles a
Responsibilit
Matrix; a
Statement o
Personal and
Professional
Standards of
YMCA programs.

Raised close to \$1.4 million in grant support.

Secured over \$145,000 at the 22nd annual Kids to Camp Golf Tournament, presented by Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast, in support of summer camp scholarships.

Raised over \$60,000 during Healthy Kids Day, an association-wide fundraising event in support of the Y's youth programs.

Engaged David Martorano and the Thriving Ys team to analyze GHYMCA operations and assets.

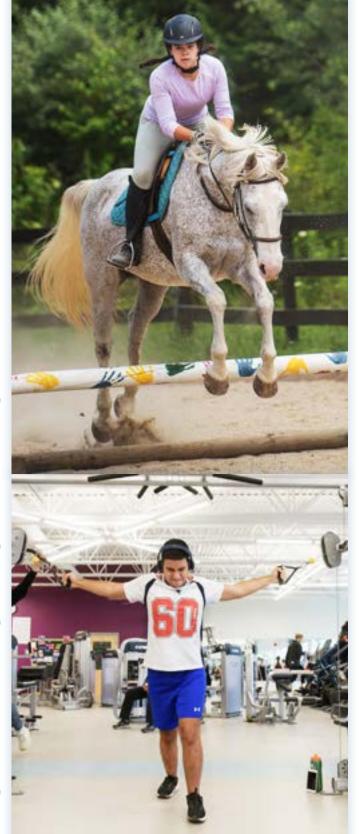
Formed Bylaws and Endowment, Finance, and Strategy (EFS) board task forces.

Adopted a new Strategic Plan: Roles and Responsibilities Matrix; a Statement of Personal and Standards of Conduct for board members, trustees, advisorv council members, and senior leadership staff members: and updated and restated bylaws.

Served 324 youth in the BellXcel summer learning program. During the 6-week program youth gained an average of 1.5 months in literacy skills and 2.5 months in math skills.

Celebrated the retirement of Susan Joyse, Chief Development Officer.

Welcomed three new members to the Y leadership family: Jeff Williams, Chief Development Officer; Becca Ginns, Vice President of Development; and Valencia Williams, Vice President of Operations.



Camp Jewell YMCA

Served 2,061 campers through our overnight and day camp programs.

Served over 8,823 people in yearround programs, including 3,005 students, 76 separate organizations, and 75 families in our family camps.

Camp Woodstock YMCA

Engaged over 1,300 kids in summer camp.

provided financial

assistance to 122

Completed two

of the 100 Year

Promise Capital

Campaign.

new cabins as part

Partnered with The

ARC, a non-profit

rights of people

with intellectual

disabilities, on a

project in which

ARC participants

baked cookies

throughout the

Collaborated with

School masonry

and carpentry

departments to

range, program

space, pavilion,

Ellis Technical High

build a new archery

and campfire area.

for campers

summer.

that promotes and

protects the human

and developmental

children.

Exceeded the \$1.25 Celebrated the million goal for the completion of a 100 Year Promise new playground, Capital Campaign. climbing tower, and zip line at Camp Chase through a Surpassed the generous donation Annual Campaign from Squadron goal by raising over Capital. \$110,000, which

Congratulated Camp Rising Sun, a camp for children who have or had cancer, as they celebrated their camp's 40th anniversary.

Hosted summer staff from 23 countries, and campers from 26 states, 105 towns in Connecticut, and 11 countries.

Provided over \$162,000 in financial assistance to over 204 campers during the summer who would not otherwise be able to afford to attend camp.

Grew revenue in excess of \$1.4million over 2022. Celebrated Camp Woodstock's 101st summer on the shores of Black Pond.

Ended the summer at 93% capacity for summer programming.

Hosted two alumni events, one in the Boston area and one in New York City.

Took part in The Witness Stone Project and placed a Witness Stone at the Enslaved Dam in Woodstock, CT, in tribute to and memory of those who were enslaved in Woodstock.

Downtown YMCA

Provided free swim lessons to 130 children over the past two years through the Learn to Swim program.

Incorporated swim lessons into the day camp schedule wherein 40 campers learned to swim over the course of the summer. By the end of the summer, 95% were able to swim the length of the pool.



Hosted the annual Mission in Motion Cvcle-a-Thon, which raised \$20,000 to provide financial assistance for membership and programs to individuals and families in need.

Partnered with the Department of Children and Family Services to spread holiday cheer to 46 foster children. Members, volunteers, and staff generously donated gifts to make the holidays special for these children.

East Hartford YMCA

Commemorated the opening of the newly renovated and licensed East Hartford Childcare Center (for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old), at 770 Main Street, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in October.

Celebrated the graduation of 23 vouth from the YCC and Larson Center pre-school programs.

Applauded 14 LÉYH swim team high school seniors as they received scholarships to swim at the collegiate level.

Distributed 20,000 meals to children who participated in summer dav camp. childcare, and the BellXcel program.

Provided over \$42,000 in financial

assistance to all families whose children were enrolled in childcare programs, which made childcare affordable for working parents.

Farmington Valley YMCA

Hosted free community events including the 1st Annual Easter Egg Hunt; Senior Financial Fraud Seminar: Senior Health & Fitness Day Celebration; Community Hikes; Family Night BBO; Healthy Kids Day; Halloween at the Y; Breakfast with Santa; blood pressure checks in partnership with the Farmington Valley VNA; Middle School Nights Out; and Farmers'

Offered 11 lifequard classes hosted by the aquatics team.

Markets.

Presented water safety seminars at three local schools, where over 600 kids were taught about the importance of safety in and around the water.

Helped 86 members get healthier with the Slimdown challenge.

> Supported 54 members who logged a total of 16,780 hours of exercise, burned 5,123,832 calories, and earned 1,245,704 Myzone Exertion Points, all tracked through Myzone fitness bands.

Congratulated the Farmington Valley Tsunami swim team for winning the YMCA New England Championship for the 15 and over age group.

Engaged 393 participants in the 2023 Granby Road Race and 26 participants in the Race 4 Chase.

Enrolled over 115 students in beforecare and afterschool programs, including expanded sites at Pine Grove and Roaring Brook Schools.

Ran three successful sessions of our

LIVESTRONG® at

cancer survivors

find strength and

Partnered with the

Hartford Wolf Pack

to run floor hockey

sessions with team

members at Camp

Welcomed Marissa

which helps

community.

Glawackus.

the YMCA program,

Glastonbury Family and Tri-Town YMCAs

the official opening of the new Glastonbury Family YMCA at 90 National Drive, Glastonbury, with a ribbon cutting ceremony in June.

Hosted an inaugural holiday breakfast for early-childhood education participants and families in the community.

Hale YMCA Youth and **Family Center**

Provided 75 youth with free safety around water lessons during school vacation week in April.

Partnered with the American Red Cross to host blood drives that collected 38 pints of blood.

Provided 156 teens with free summer memberships by way of a \$30,000 grant from the Beagary Trust.

Received two grants to provide the Race 4 Chase youth triathlon training program to 34 children, culminating in a triathlon with over 600 youth athletes from across New England.

Added swim lessons to our day camp program, which allowed 217 campers to learn how to swim.

Raised \$46,000 for wellness programs, including LIVESTRONG® at the Y, at our Road to Wellness cycling, spin, and kids funrun fundraiser.

Commemorated

Casarella as our new Executive Director.



Indian Valley Family YMCA

Received \$30,000 from White Mountains Insurance to support the LIVE**STRONG®** at the Y cancer survivor program. Thanks to their generosity, 55 cancer survivors graduated the program in 2023.

Provided a BellXcel summer learning loss prevention program in partnership with the Vernon Public School District. This program served 27 youth entering 5th and 6th grade.

Served 28,068 meals and provided care for 157 children in our child development programs.

Hosted a blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross with 28 donors, which supported 54 recipients. Hosted a flu vaccine clinic that provided 80 vaccines. Collected over 15 totes of food and hygiene products for our local food banks.

Engaged 170 children at Camp Indian Valley. Thanks to our generous donors and Care4Kids, 41 children received over \$22,000 in financial assistance.

Hosted the 6th annual Spirits for Giving gala, which raised nearly \$24,000 and exceeded the Annual Campaign goal, with a total of \$89,634.

Applauded the

Breakers Swim

enjoyed a '3-peat'

the YMCA Yankee

for the 3rd year in

a row in both the

and summer long

West Hartford

course.

YMCA

spring short course

Participated in West

Hartford town-wide

community events

including Celebrate

and Holiday Stroll.

West Hartford,

Halloween Stroll,

Received \$10,655

from proceeds

Old Guard Golf Tournament to help support

summer camp in

Received a \$10,000

West Hartford.

donation from

the Vernon D.

and Florence E.

at the Hartford

Foundation for

award provides

to families for

Roosa Family Fund

Public Giving. The

financial assistance

summer camp and

youth programs.

Welcomed 110

West Hartford.

Worked with 47

youth to mitigate

summer learning

loss through the

BellXcel program.

campers at Camp

raised at the

Cluster League

championships

in 2023 by winning

Team as they

Wheeler Regional Family YMCA

Graduated 30 participants from LIVESTRONG[®] at the Y, of which eight formed a Wheeler LIVESTRONG[®] team and participated in Plainville's Relay for Life event to help raise awareness for cancer.

Served 35 participants in the Adaptive Fitness program, which strengthens the lives of people with all abilities.

Engaged 140 children in our preschool program, which prepares children with skills they need for kindergarten.

Hosted 150 youth at Camp Wheeler day camp, where they made new friends, learned new skills, and built self-esteem.

Partnered with the United Way for two of their signature events: Annual Day of Caring, wherein volunteers completed beautification projects at the Y and a back-toschool backpack drive, which completely filled over 20 backpacks for children in the communities we serve.

Welcomed Donelle Daigle as the new Executive Director.





Wilson-Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center

Served 30 participants in the Adaptive Fitness program, strengthening the lives of people of all abilities.

Worked with 126 youth to mitigate summer learning loss through the BellXcel program.

Awarded \$537,000 by the City of Hartford and the State of Connecticut's School Readiness program, funded and administered by the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood, to provide affordable early education full-day, year-round childcare. The Preschool program was launched in November 2023. The Infant and Toddler program is slated to open in spring 2024.

annual holiday event. Hosted a free event in partnership with United Against Hate (ŬAH) designed to inform community members about hate crimes and discuss strategies to respond to them. The event was attended by 85 community members. Opening remarks were provided by US attorney for the District of Connecticut Vanessa Roberts Avery. This initiative is part of Connecticut's FBI Outreach team and the US Attorney's Office (USAO) Multi-Cultural Community Committee (MCCC).

Partnered with

the American Red

UConn Health to

host the inaugural

Juneteenth Sickle

Cell Awareness

Expo. During

the event, 56 attendees donated

blood.

Hosted a

Thanksgiving

meals to more

dinner and served

than 75 community members at the

Blood Drive and

Cross and the New England Sickle Cell Institute of

Thomas "Tom" J. Rechen, this year's recipient of the Robert C. Knox, Jr. YMCA Distinguished Leadership Award, rarely misses an opportunity to give credit to others for instilling in him the attributes that have helped him reach many personal and professional goals. And that trait in Tom makes him so valuable as a mentor to others who may aspire to the same kind of productive life and career.

When asked to reflect on the principal lessons gained from his early years through family influence and professional mentorship, he did not hesitate for a moment. "There are at least three. To advocate for what I believe in, to be unafraid to speak up, and to try to always be fair, logical and persuasive," says Tom, whose has held many volunteer positions for the YMCA of Greater Hartford, the latest of which include Vice Chair of the Executive Committee and as an active member of the Nominating and Governance Committees.

Tom is an attorney who specializes in business and intellectual property litigation. From the earliest moments of his career, he recognized the value and personal satisfaction of helping organizations that exist for the public good. In fact, when asked by his first law firm boss to help raise money for the Y, he jumped right in. Looking back today he reflects that "I have always loved the chance to make an impact. Whatever I do for the Y and other organizations, it is always my intention to do it to the best of my ability, with integrity and honesty, and all consistent with values instilled by my family and my faith. That's the way it's been from the start."

In addition to the Y, Tom has worked with the World Affairs Council of Connecticut, the Talcott Mountain Science Center, the Hartford Bishop's Foundation, and many other local, statewide and regional boards and agencies. Many years ago, when he first started raising funds for the Y, his affinity for the Greater Hartford group grew quickly thanks to the camaraderie he enjoyed as he continued to meet people and make lifelong friends. But what also sparked his enduring interest was the fact that the Y represents and works on behalf of every walk of life—a reality he found especially rewarding.

That is the simple truth behind Tom's role as one of the YMCA's most active and effective volunteers.

How he became a lawyer is a somewhat different story, though with an equal level of simplicity.

"When I was a very young boy, one day my mother noticed rocks on the lawn, and she assumed that I was the one who had thrown them there. Rocks made it hard to mow the lawn and damaged the mower blades," he recalls. "My mother yelled at me about it. So I asked her, 'Mom, did you actually see me throw the rocks?' And that was the day my mother says she knew I would one day be a lawyer."

He has indeed been a successful one, and he brings to the Y the same level of compassion, integrity, and astute counsel that he brings to the courtroom.

With his ongoing resolve to raise funds, to provide recommendations for projects and programs, and to utilize his organizational and leadership skills, Tom continues to make his friends and colleagues at the Y very proud. Also proud of his many accomplishments are his wife Amy, their grown children, Alexandra, Timothy and Christopher, and his parents, John and Ann.

"I have attended countless annual YMCA meetings and have seen so many people whom I admire receive the R. C. Knox Award. To stand in their company is humbling ... and a tremendous honor."

It is well deserved. Congratulations, Tom.



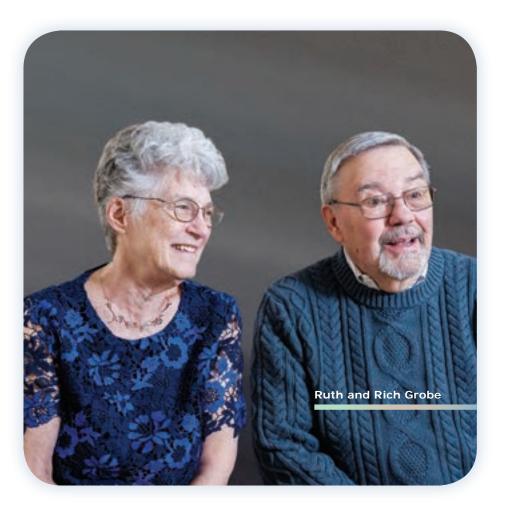
THOMAS J. RECHEN Robert C. Knox, Jr. YMCA Distinguished Leadership Award Recipient

Past Knox Award Recipients

1977 Robert C. Knox, Jr.* 1978 The Hon. Thomas D. Gill* 1979 Frederick U. Conard, Jr.* 1980 William H. Short* 1981 Richard B. Haskell* 1982 Reese H. Harris, Jr.* 1983 Herbert R. Bland* 1984 Earnest T. Andrews, Jr.* 1985 J. Ronald Regnier* 1986 Donald P. Richter* 1987 William K. Cole* 1988 Morrison H. Beach* 1989 Robert E. Carroll, Jr.* 1990 Raymond W. Stahl* 1991 Warren A. Hunt* 1992 Robertson Mackay* 1993 Donald J. Hayes* 1994 Raymond B. Green* 1995 Alfred R. Rogers 1996 Raymond H. Deck* 1997 Harold C. Buckingham, Jr.* 1998 R. Michael Curran 1999 Judith A. Stearns* 2000 J. Philip Denison* 2001 Chandler J. Howard 2002 Myron E. Congdon 2003 Michael M. Hopkins* 2004 Gerald Geise 2005 James T. Betts 2006 Arthur Snyder 2007 Laura Estes 2008 William Petit, Sr. 2009 John F. Byrnes 2010 Warren C. Packard* 2011 Ruth H. Grobe 2012 JoAnn Price 2013 Al Wilke 2014 I. Charles Mathews 2015 Daniel C. Tracy 2016 Peter B. Atherton 2017 Gary Wolff 2018 Jerald (Jerry) Gooden 2019 Philip Kane, Jr. 2020 Betty Hale 2021 Edward F. Bader 2022 Richard J. Burness

Deceased

*



Leadership Circle

Our major donors make a large personal investment in the Y's mission-driven programs, services, and projects that deliver positive outcomes and build lifelong success. We are honored to acknowledge their generosity with membership in our Leadership Circle. This special society is reserved for the Y's most generous friends whose annual gifts total \$10,000 or more or have lifetime contributions in excess of \$1 million.

Ruth and Rich Grobe have been supporters of the YMCA of Greater Hartford for many years based on their belief that the Y builds stronger communities and helps people of all ages and backgrounds develop strong minds, spirits, and bodies. Rich, a minister who works with youth, says his Y experience has helped him focus on his career. The Grobes have directed their generous support to many branches and programs, and also many camps, which have long played an important role in their family life. Ruth was actively involved in the planning of the Wilson-Gray YMCA branch, which provides countless educational and wellness activities to enrich the lives of families in North Hartford. "When you support the Y," she says, "you get more out of it than you give."

Dr. Linda S. Alexander Toten & Nadja Bacardi Pat Morgan, Beagary Charitable Trust William Belcher Ed & Mary Budd Theodore & Mary* Gawlicki, The Gawlicki Family Foundation Ruth & Richard Grobe Carole Goldberg Betty Hale Sherry Manetta & Brian Harvey Kimberly & Michael Hecht Sandra Kuhach & Peter Axilrod JoAnn & James Price Elwyn Harp,* Roosa Family Memorial Fund at the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving

Arthur Snyder

David Pelizzon, Squadron Capital LLC

Ryan Wilde, Wilson Wilde Family Foundation

The Heritage Club

The Y's planned giving society, The Heritage Club, honors individuals who have made **a planned gift to benefit the Y and its** 12 branches and camps. Such gifts follow one's life and might include an estate gift, bequest of life insurance, IRA distributions, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder unitrusts, or charitable remainder annuity trusts. We are deeply grateful for the generosity of our over 250 Heritage Club members whose planned gifts will allow the Y to serve our communities well into the future.



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Raised over \$145,000

The Kids to Camp golf tournament supports the Y's ability to ensure that every child has the opportunity to attend summer camp **regardless of financial circumstances.** A Y camp experience is often life-changing and allows youth to explore the outdoors, be active, make new friends, build **confidence, and develop leadership skills.**

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The YMCA 1852 Society consists of special friends of the YMCA who supported it with a gift of \$2,500 or more. The YMCA 1852 Society derives its name from the year of the birth of the YMCA services in Hartford. The YMCA of Greater Hartford is the fourth oldest YMCA in the United States. The generous gifts from members of the 1852 Society allow the YMCA to continue its important work throughout our region.

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The Hersey Family Bruce & Karen Johnson Susan & Mark Joyse Frank Lucchesi Heather & Jeff LeBlanc Pam (Gordon) Levin Michael Lopes The McGann Family Michael McGlamery Susannah McGlamerv & Andrew Ranson The McGrath Family Robert Merritt & Susan Lennon The Nash Family Newell D. Hale Foundation Newell & Betty Hale Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation Osterman Propane, LLC Carol "Ma" Parkman William E. Parkman Judith & Brewster Perkins Anne Pickart Paul & Christine Pinette Betsey Pitt Scott & Norma-Jean Posocco John & Susan Preis Jane Anderson Price JoAnn & James Price Michelle & Rob Rawcliffe Mary Schone Michael Sherman

Mike & Susan Sherman Sadie & Matt Slootsky Judy Jo* & Art Snyder Tom & Tina Steen, John Steen, & Cynthia Steen Petti in memory of Bill Steen Nora & Ted Steinhauser Joel & Amy Steinman Stephen Taylor Al Thatcher The Darald and Julie Libby Foundation The Thibault-O'Beirne Family Ellen Dix Thompson Brandon Tucker Lili Diorio Walker Debbie Stein Waxler Craig Weinstein Bruce Weissgold Ashley Whamond YMCA of the USA George & Tracy Zack The Zuffelato Family

*Deceased

*Pledges of \$1,000 or more made to the Capital Campaigns as of 12/31/23.

We have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of these lists. We apologize if any error has been made. Please contact Jeff Williams, Chief Development Officer 860-595-3048, jeff.williams@ghymca.org, to note any errors or omissions. Thank you.

The YMCA of Greater Hartford Summarized Financial Information for 2023

Summary of Public Support, Revenues and Expenses

| Public Support | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Contributions | 2,581,667 |
| United Way | 29,667 |
| Government Contracts & Grants | 5,434,384 |
| Total Public Support | 8,045,717 |
| Revenues | |
| Program Activities | 15,314,572 |
| Memberships | 7,055,292 |
| Merchandise Sales | 392,725 |
| Endowment allocation | 1,945,716 |
| Miscellaneous revenues | 162,516 |
| Total Revenue | 24,870,821 |
| Total puplic support | |
| and revenue | 32,916,539 |
| Expenses | |
| Salaries, taxes and benefits | 18,252,931 |
| Supplies and services | 5,411,300 |
| Utilities and occupancy | 5,096,148 |
| Promotion, vehicles and training | |
| Other expenses | 918,805 |
| Total expenses | 31,058,065 |
| Subtotal Excess (deficit) | 1,858,474 |
| Less:Depreciation and amortization | n 2,887,151 |
| Net Excess (defecit) | (1,028,677) |
| Investment and non-operating | |
| activity-net | 9,053,299 |
| Capital campaign activity-net | 340,717 |
| Net change in assets | 8,365,339 |

| Summarized Balance Sheet | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Assets | |
| Cash and equivalents | 4,565,91 |
| Investments | 73,549,69 |
| Receivables | 1,736,18 |
| Other assets | 11,657,30 |
| Land, Bldg, Equip - net | 56,573,36 |
| Trusts held by others | 14,483,22 |
| Total assets | 162,565,67 |
| Liabilities | |
| Payable and accrued expenses | 1,972,01 |
| Notes Payable and Line of cred | it 3,729,62 |
| Deferred revenue | 3,215,92 |
| Other Liabilities | 11,804,44 |
| Bond payable | 19,723,54 |
| Total liabilities | 40,445,54 |
| Net Assets | |
| Total net assets | 122,120,12 |
| Total net assets and liabilities | 162,565,67 |

This summarized financial information is taken from financial statements audited by independent public accountants. Copies of the audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 are available for examination at the YMCA's office.



Constituency Report

Membership **Different People Served** 18,146 Male Female 19,169 916 Unknown Youth 9,330 28,901 Adults Total Members 38,231 27,120 Other Participants Total Constituency 65,351

Personnel

| Employees Full Time | 149 |
|--|-------|
| Employees Part Time | 543 |
| Seasonal | 525 |
| Supporters | |
| Fund Raising and Other Volunteers Volunteer Boards | 504 |
| and Committees | 185 |
| Donors | 2,929 |

Our Mission

The YMCA of Greater Hartford is a charitable association open to all and committed to helping people develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind and body. This commitment is reinforced by our belief in living out the universal values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

Belong to Something Greater

Passionate about strengthening our communities by positively impacting the life of every person.

YMCA of Greater Hartford Branch Locations*

Camp Jewell YMCA

6 Prock Hill Road Colebrook, CT 06021 1-888-412-2267 Craig Dawson, Branch Executive Jessica Brown, Branch Board Chair

Camp Woodstock YMCA

42 Camp Road Woodstock Valley, CT 06282 1-800-782-2344 Tony Gronski, Branch Executive Heather LeBlanc. Branch Board Chair

Downtown YMCA

90 State House Square Hartford, CT 06103 860-522-4183 Laura Flovd, Branch Executive Lloyd Huie, Branch Board Chair

Fast Hartford YMCA

770 Main Street East Hartford, CT 06108 860-289-6612 Laura Flovd, Branch Executive Randi Ricketts, Branch Board Chair

Farmington Valley YMCA

97 Salmon Brook Street Granby, CT 06035 860-653-5524 Brian P. Liss, Branch Executive Reverened Sandra Fischer, Branch Board Chair

Glastonbury Family/ Tri-Town YMCA

95 Oakwood Drive Glastonbury, CT 06033 860-633-6548 Marissa Casarella, Branch Executive Vacant Branch Board Chair

Hale YMCA Youth and Family Center

9 Technology Park Drive Putnam, CT 06260 860-315-9622 Amanda Kelly, Branch Executive Kate Taylor, Branch Board Chair

Indian Vallev YMCA

11 Pinney Street Ellington, CT 06029 860-871-0008 David Corricelli, Branch Executive Dan Cargill, Branch Board Chair

West Hartford YMCA

149 Farmington Avenue Plainville, CT 06062 860-521-5830 Donelle Daigle, Branch Executive Jocelyn Hillard, Branch Board Chair

Wheeler Regional

Family YMCA 149 Farmington Avenue Plainville, CT 06062 860-793-9631 Donelle Daigle, Branch Executive Vacant Branch Board Chair

Wilson-Gray YMCA Youth

and Family Center 444 Albany Avenue Hartford, CT 06120 860-241-9622 Aristede Hill, Branch Executive Traci Carter, Branch Board Chair

Metropolitan YMCA Staff*

Harold Sparrow President and CEO

Kimberly Cole Chief Operating Officer

Susan Joyse Chief Development Officer

Josslyn Grindle Chief Human **Resource Officer**

Robert Herr Vice President of Finance and CFO

Steve Phillips Vice President of Facilities

Valencia Williams Vice President of Operations

Jeff Williams Associate Vice President of Development

Gina Gaipa Association Director of Management Information Systems

Lisa Paterson Association Director of Membership

Ronny Segura Director of Information Technology

Stacia Shaw Director of Development

Natalie Zembrzuski Director of Executive Relations

Directors*

Julianne Avallone Jessica Brown Dan Cargill Traci Carter Mike DeFeo Jason Fazio **Reverend Sandra Fischer** Cora Hall Jocelyn Hillard Aina Hoskins Lloyd Huie Linda Knox Heather LeBlanc Jim Martin Timothy McGrath James Michel Tom Mongellow Marino Monti Peter Olson Thomas J. Rechen Tim Restall Randy Ricketts Carmen Sierra Harold Sparrow Kate Taylor Dr. Daniel Weiner Diane Zalewski Scott Zuffelato

Trustees*

Peter Atherton Edward F. Bader Kim Bishop P.J. Brewer Theodore Bruttomesso **Richard Burness** John F. Byrnes Eric Clapprood Maura Cochran Julio Concepcion Tamara Gloster Ruth H. Grobe Laurence Hale S. Edward Jeter Phil Kane, Jr. Evelyn Karaj Annette Larabee Coleman Levy, Esq. Sherry Manetta **I.Charles Mathews** Richard G. McGeary Jocelyn Mitchell Patrick Nickoletti Jody Osko-Lewis Brewster B. Perkins Angela Phillips-Arrington Richard J. Shima Gary T. Wolff

Officers*

Peter Olson. Board Chair

Linda Knox, Vice Chair

Tom Rechen, Vice Chair

Scott Zuffelatto, Vice Chair

Rich Burness, Past Board Chair

Tim McGrath, Treasurer

Julianne Avallone, Secretary

Harold Sparrow, President and CEO

*Current as of 12/31/2023

Credits: Harold Sparrow; President and CEO, Bob Herr, Vice President of Finance and CFO; Jeff Williams, Chief Development Officer: Jennifer Farina, Senior Development Operations Manager; Gina Gaipa, Association Director of Management Information Systems: Natalie Zembrzuski, Director of Executive Relations: Copywriting: Joel Samberg; Design: Christopher Passehl, Passehl Design: Photography: J. Fiereck Photography: Printing: GHP

Carolyn Paldino JoAnn Price Stacy Raney Lena Rodriguez Arthur Snyder

Jim Zahansky

Board of Directors



Peter Olson CBRE | Global Workplace Solutions



Mike Defeo Coca-Cola Beverages Northeast



Harold Sparrow YMCA of Greater Hartford



Julianne Avallone Department of Consumer Protection, State of Connecticut



Reverend Sandra Fischer East Granby Congregational Church



The Nature Conservancy





Dan Cargill Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence



Jocelyn Hillard American Red Cross



Traci Carter Anchors Investment



Aina Hoskins Squadron Capital LLC



Lloyd Huie Liberty Bank



Jason Fazio

JF IV Holdings, LLC

Linda Knox The Knox Group



Heather LeBlanc ABB





Jim Martin Barnum Premier Client Group





Timothy McGrath UnitedHealthcare



James Michel Access Health CT



Tom Mongellow Connecticut Bankers Association



Kate Taylor Fidelity Investments



Marino Monti Voya Financial

Dr. Daniel Weiner

University of Connecticut



Thomas J. Rechen McCarter & English

Diane Zalewski

Cigna HealthCare



Hartford Yard Goats Baseball



Scott Zuffelato Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame



Randy Ricketts The Missing Piece



Carmen Sierra City of Hartford







Thank You.

