In August 2016, Hockomock Area YMCA President Ed Hurley, Board Chairman Brian Earley and Dave Doran gather with Y volunteer leaders — all previous board chairs — at the Doran Family Kids Gym Dedication at our North Attleboro Branch. Photo L-R: Tom Gruppioni, Paul Lenahan, Tom Kimbrel, Dave Doran, Ed Hurley, Jay Barrows, Brian Earley and Steve Clapp.

FRONT COVER: Summer campers enjoy refreshing swim time building confidence in the water.
DEAR FRIEND,

Where Lives Are Enriched. This is what motivates us every day at our Hockomock Area YMCA.

Our passion is connecting with people in our communities to help meet emerging needs. Our commitment is bringing people together to create opportunities that make a meaningful difference in all of our lives. Our cause is our community and at our Y everyone is welcome.

Our cause driven mission is to enhance the quality of life of our members and enrich the fifteen communities we are so proud to serve. We believe in youth development and nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and encouraging social responsibility.

As a not for profit charitable organization, we are proud our YMCA ensures that every individual and family have access to a Y experience and the essentials needed to learn, grow and thrive. This is made possible through the generosity of our compassionate donors, members, business and community partners, staff and volunteers working together to enhance lives and enrich our community.

Thank you for your investment in the Hockomock Area YMCA and for helping make possible the stories contained in this Impact Report.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff colleagues, we are privileged to share these inspiring stories of passion and purpose. We also celebrate the contributions of so many that make our Y an important thread in the fabric of the communities enriched by your support, and in the lives enhanced by our programs and services.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Earley
Chairman, Board of Directors

Edwin H. Hurley
President & CEO
Memorable family experiences are different for each parent and child. Some last a lifetime, while others are fleeting but just as important to shaping the future of a young person.

According to Tabitha, mother of eleven year old Deziree Holland-Hagan, who prefers you call her “Dez,” her relationship with our Invensys Foxboro YMCA is a big part of Dez’s world, especially when it comes to swimming.

To hear Tabitha put it, “Swimming is her life. She becomes one with the water. It’s her stress reliever, her special place where she can chill. It just gives her life!”

Aquatics continues to be a fundamental program at the center of our YMCA. Swimming, whether you are a competitive high school athlete or someone who enjoys an occasional swim to cool off and unwind, is a part of our shared experience — one that, for millions, is rooted at their local Y.

An important innovative program piloted at our Spier Family Aquatics Center at our Invensys Foxboro Branch in 2016 was our SAW (Safety Around Water) classes — designed to reduce the fear of water, teach kids how to swim and build the foundation for life-long enjoyment around the water. Last summer, 206 summer campers participated in these life-saving classes as part of our expanded Spier Family Splash Program.

The Spiers can be proud that our Y is teaching kids water safety every day.

“We were away with cousins,” notes Tabitha, “when Dez jumped into the water to save her cousin who wasn’t a good swimmer. What she learned at the Foxboro Y saved her cousin’s life.”

Dez wants to become a Y lifeguard one day, as well as a camp counselor.

Experiences like these, handed down from one generation to another, are based on core values that impact us all. To hear Tabitha tell it, “The Y is our family. It’s home for us. It’s seen us through a lot of tough times in our life.”

“As a parent, the impact is clear in my mind: kids are allowed to be kids at our Y, and at the same time, grow, learn and build great relationships with other kids and the great Y staff.”

— Tabitha Holland-Hagan, parent
Mary Waltuck is passionate about inspiring purpose. Throughout her life, Mary’s list of accomplishments includes being a 16-time triathlete, a 15-time 5K finisher and a two-time Rodman Ride for Kids rider. Mary is also a two-time breast cancer survivor. Mary reflects, “I think cancer gives you a new perspective and appreciation for life.”

In 2010, Mary participated in the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA program. This is a free 12-week small group training program for cancer survivors and their families designed to motivate participants to reclaim their total health.

Mary reminisces, “At one of my triathlons I learned about the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA program from a Y staff person. I was thrilled to participate and my fitness was remarkably improved through the program.”

The Y continues to be an important part of Mary’s life. A new program was launched in 2015 to provide LIVESTRONG at the YMCA alumni motivation to continue their journey with exercise and social connections at our Y. The Living STRONGER program is funded by the Lunter Family on behalf of LIVESTRONG at the YMCA program alumni Elaine and the late Walter Jaworski.

“Both YMCA programs gave me so much and made me want to help others unleash their full potential,” exclaims Mary. She encouraged fellow participants to compete in the Y’s Triathlon. They trained together for five months and Mary was their biggest cheerleader.

Joan McElwee, another Living STRONGER participant said, “I think of Mary as my triathlon training wheels. She inspired the confidence I needed, gently reminding me along the way, ‘You got this.’ Without her patient coaching, good humor and belief in my ability, I’d probably have been sitting on the sidelines and missed the ride of my life!”

Mary is already planning for this year’s Triathlon and expanding the group to more cancer survivors. “What the Y and this program did was help me take something that I love and make it into something that I love even more,” says Mary with admiration.

At this year’s LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Celebration event, Mary received the first Charlie Shannon Volunteer Award. In memory of program alumnus Charlie Shannon, this award recognized Mary’s commitment, dedication and passion to our Y’s LIVESTRONG at the YMCA program.
The smile is infectious. The smile lights up the room. The smile brings a smile to every face that sees it. The smile belongs to Dennis Gilreath. Dennis is 27 years old and has been coming to the Invensys Foxboro Branch since it opened, when he was a student at Foxborough High School, receiving services through their special needs education department.

Dennis’s mom Margaret says, “I love that Dennis spends so much time at the Y. His involvement in our Y’s Integration Initiative has significantly impacted Dennis’s life in many ways — in ways just like the Y impacts the lives of everyone in the community, with and without disabilities.”

When Dennis first started coming to the Y his physical strength was a major issue. He couldn’t even pull a shirt over his head. When the Y and a regular workout schedule became part of his life, his physical development improved along with his overall health. The strength issues disappeared.

The Y also had a positive effect on his social development and Margaret states, “The Y is his social circle, both inside and outside the facility. The invitation list to his last birthday was made up of friends he made at the YMCA.”

As a young adult Dennis’s skills and independence have emerged. Every year at the Unified Olympics state tournament, our Y sponsored team stays at a hotel, and Dennis proudly reminds his mom, that the overnight is for his team only and she cannot stay, something that warms her heart.

Dennis’s mom glows when she talks about her son’s friendship with Luke Donaway, a volunteer and staff member at the Y. Luke is 27 years old just like Dennis. He is a peer and that is really important to Dennis and Margaret. “The relationship between Dennis and Luke is real. They’re genuine friends,” she said.

Margaret says, “Having programs at the Y provides the social inclusion that enhances a quality of life that at times didn’t seem possible.”

Margaret, hearing that makes all of us smile!

“I want to emphasize the importance to local residents with disabilities of the Y as an enduring community entity. Having an established, ongoing infrastructure that welcomes and supports all residents is a lifeline to people that otherwise have very little opportunity to be involved in social, recreational and community activities.”

– Margaret Gilreath
“At Rockland Trust, we believe that every relationship matters with our customers and with the community. We wanted to make a major grant to a community organization we thought has great impact on families and children in the community. And that is the Hockomock Area YMCA. We were thrilled to grant $250,000 for the creation of the Rockland Trust Family Splash Park at the Bernon Family Branch in Franklin.”

– Jane Lundquist
Executive Vice President, Rockland Trust and President, Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation

“I remember the days when the North Attleboro YMCA was a little wooden building in the center of town. Then, like today, the Y has always been an important, safe place for kids. The Y has grown tremendously and is a vital resource for our community. Anne and I know this kids gym will be a welcome space for kids to enjoy and explore. We can’t wait to bring our grandchild here and making memories for years to come.”

– Dave Doran
Doran Family Kids Gym, North Attleboro Branch

“The Hockomock Area YMCA represents core values that we believe in including family, health and community. The Y provides an opportunity to give back in a way that promotes these values and we are honored to support the Bernon Family Branch and our community with this new kids gym.”

– Terry Robbins
Robbins Family Kids Gym, Bernon Family Branch

“The Y was a great place to gather, work, and hang out for our son Paul. The camp’s emphasis on core values made the overall camp experience truly transformational. His grandmother loved the effect Camp Wiggi had on him and his friends, and that is why we were so excited to help provide a place for campers to hang out outside and name it for Grandma … “Grandma’s Place.”

– Dr. Paula Rooney and Dr. Gerry Shaw
Grandma’s Place Camp Pavilion
Bernon Family Branch

Several projects enhanced our YMCA facilities in 2016. At the Hockomock Area YMCA, we have something special: a sense of community where everyone is welcome. Our mission and vision are brought to life by generous donors and community partners who believe in our cause.
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Integration Initiative participants volunteer at Healthy Kids Day

A new element called Captain’s Challenge was dedicated at the Capt. Kyle Van De Giesen Outdoor Leadership Center

Our 2016 Reach Out for Youth & Families Annual Campaign Breakfast

Y Flag Football campers celebrate after playing during halftime of a New England Patriots preseason game

Y summer campers enjoying the Best Summer Ever

Campers at our Camp Silver Lake in Bellingham enjoy time on the water

Team Rival, a Norfolk County peer leadership conference at Gillette Stadium

New innovative fitness equipment installed at all branches

A new element called Captain’s Challenge was dedicated at the Capt. Kyle Van De Giesen Outdoor Leadership Center

Staff role models reinforce confidence and healthy habits every day

Our YMCA provides a place to belong
WHERE CAUSE MEETS COMMUNITY

Area legislators congratulate 2016 Red Triangle Awardee State Representative Jeff Roy at our Annual Meeting

Kris and Kayla Biagiotti at the Franklin 5K

Kids enjoy exploring at our Rockland Trust Family Splash Park

Legends interact with Integration Initiative team members at our Legends Golf Classic at TPC Boston

New friendships were made at our Milford Summer Food Service Program over a healthy lunch

Our 11th annual Y Triathlon was held at Lake Pearl

Rob Ninkovich receives a signed football from the Y’s Unified Flag Football team

Our 2016 Legends Ball Honoree Rob Ninkovich is embraced by Integration Initiative participants

Golf Fights Cancer’s Cheryl McGuire receives the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Community Champion Award

The Christopher R. Morrissey Basketball 4 All Tournament celebrates inclusion
**HERITAGE CLUB**

The Heritage Club honors all those who have included the Hockomock Area YMCA in their estate plans or have made an outright gift to the Y’s endowment fund. The foresight and generosity of these special people will impact our Y and our community for generations to come.

Anonymous  
Jay Barrows  
Alan and Carol Bernon  
Tony Calcia  
Mario Capozzoli  
Stephen Clapp  
Steve and Mary Beth Clay  
William and Beulah Crosby †  
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Herbert † and Cynthia Horne  
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**ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS**

Amvets Campership Fund  
Bernon Family Endowment for Reach Out for Youth and Families  
Bernon Family Branch Maintenance Fund  
Gruppioni Family Endowment Fund  
James Horne and Janet Cyr Swimming Scholarship  
Lorraine Hubrich Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Lee Robbins Endowment Fund

**2016 LEADERSHIP DONORS**

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Kerrie Francis
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WHERE YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Thanks to the inspiring support of our generous donors, our Y awarded $2,017,570 in confidential scholarships and program subsidies in 2016, providing life-changing experiences for children and families in our community and being there when families need us most.

Our cause is our community and we achieve our mission through the following areas of focus:

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT.
Because we nurture the potential of every child. We are proud to help kids build confidence and discover the world around them; from the youngest in our child care programs, to youth in our summer camps, to teens in our leadership development initiatives.

HEALTHY LIVING.
Because living a healthy lifestyle means living a full, productive life. The Y brings people together, helping thousands of health seekers receive the support and resources they need to strengthen their physical and intellectual health.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.
Because we strive to be there for our neighbors and our community. With your help, we welcome more than 15,000 people into our Y family through financial assistance and program subsidies. We believe it only takes one person to start a movement, and it starts here and now.
In 2016, 1,876 policy and program volunteers have lent their time and talent to create a caring community at our Hockomock Y. These individuals have contributed a total of 31,626 volunteer hours at the Hockomock Area YMCA, an estimated value of $870,715.
WHERE LIVES ARE ENRICHED

Every day our mission and vision drive us to meet the emerging needs of our 29,799 members and the fifteen communities we are privileged to serve.
OUR MISSION
The Hockomock Area YMCA enhances the quality of life of our members and enriches the communities we serve through partnership and collaboration. Our focus is on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility providing programs and services to all regardless of ability to pay.

OUR CAUSE
At the Y, strengthening our community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income, background, or ability, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.