



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

2017  
IMPACT REPORT

HOCKOMOCK AREA YMCA

ENHANCING  
LIVES  
ENRICHING  
COMMUNITIES





Hockomock Area YMCA youth leaders receiving last year's Youth of the Year awards at our Annual Meeting for their commitment and dedication to making a positive impact on our YMCA and our community.

FRONT COVER:  
Campers experiencing their best summer ever at summer camp.

L-R: YMCA President Ed Hurley, with Youths of the Year Ryan McCormack, Hailey DeMello and Liam Comery-Warren and Board Chair Brian Earley.

# DEAR FRIEND,

**People matter.** This simple yet profound message weaves its way through this entire impact report.

Each smile, each heartfelt story, and each photo of people standing shoulder-to-shoulder is emblematic of our cause driven impact occurring every day of the year.

We are honored to continually share with you the many ways our YMCA brings people together, builds bridges that help unite us, and convenes community partners to collaborate and support families in all their forms.

Our Y has a proud yet ever-growing history of inclusiveness. Whether it's a family that cannot afford a Y camping experience for their children or a teenager who struggles with bullying at school, we continually extend our arms, welcoming them into our Y family.

We are grateful to be part of 15 communities full of caring, committed people who share the values of youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Through generous contributions to our annual Reach Out for Youth and Families Campaign—and each of our many outreach events throughout the year—we tell our stories of impact, enhance our support of our mission, and welcome new neighbors to our Y family.

As you read through this impact report, we invite you to think about the ways you already partner with us to impact our communities, and perhaps other ways in which you can help us innovate in the future.

On behalf of our Hockomock Area YMCA family, thank you for being a part of our success and for your investment. You help make our Y a place Where Community Comes Together, and where people matter.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Earley  
Chairman, Board of Directors



Edwin H. Hurley  
President & CEO

# MEET ME AT THE Y WHERE CONFIDENCE GROWS



Chloe enjoying camp with her friends



Davion with his friends during Messy Week



Patriots Captain Devin McCourty greets Davion at Training Camp



Dashon receives Camper of the Week

Kids deserve to be active, happy and care-free, especially during the summer months. Summer days are longer, warmer and more enjoyable for children to explore the world around them. This is exactly the setting Lisa Levasseur needed and wanted for her three grandchildren.

“Thanks to a Y scholarship, this will be our fourth summer coming to camp,” explains Lisa, the guardian of her three grandchildren Chloe, Davion and Dashon.

Lisa, a single grandparent, speaks with pride when she describes the growth in her children through their Y experiences. “Chloe is my oldest and the social butterfly. She’s become even more confident. She’s always there to help her brothers and looks to help others. She aspires to be a camp counselor someday.”

“Sometimes I feel alone. And then I find people at the Y going through the same struggles and we help each other. This is why the Y is my family.”

– Lisa Levasseur

Davion, the middle child, is part of New Horizons Camp which provides increased support for campers with special needs. Davion was in an unsafe environment in his younger years. “Through the Y, Davion has blossomed and is more self-aware. When Davion goes to camp, he lights up,” says Lisa.

Youngest child Dashon went to camp for the first time last summer. “At camp, Dashon was introduced to gymnastics and he loves it. He still doubts himself at times but he’s learning what he’s good at and that comes from the encouragement he receives at the Y.”

When reflecting on the Y’s impact, Lisa shares “My kids are my life. I work and I take care of my kids. Without the Y, I wouldn’t be able to provide for my kids. The people of the Y are my angels.” It is through the Y that Lisa has built relationships with other caregivers who have become her friends.

When Lisa is asked why she is proud to call the Y her family she responds, “The Y teaches and encourages kids to be themselves no matter their background or situation. And when kids do so, they are their best and most happy. I see the Y do this for my children. And that’s the help I needed in order to raise my kids.”

# MEET ME AT THE Y WHERE LEARNING IS FUN



Serenity Hartland is determined. Determined, as any 9-year old girl with a passion for her friends, can be. Ask her mother Amy about the pleading, the cajoling, the bargaining, and the occasional argument surrounding her 4:30 PM pick-up time from the Bernon Family Branch Y, where Serenity is part of the Y's before and after school care programs.

"90% of the time, Serenity begs me to pick her up late," mentions Amy. "She's been part of the Y family since kindergarten, so she pretty much grew up there, amongst her friends. In fact, at her last birthday party, we had more Y friends than school friends join us."

Serenity is a typical pre-teen, when it comes to her deep bonds with her friends. Kids at that age share similar social aspirations and challenges, finding at the Y a healthy balance of physical, mental, and emotional support. Her mother notes, "She swims at the Y, explores her expanded social network at the Y, and learns sign language at the Y."

Last year, Serenity dove right into robotics, part of the Y's innovative STEM programming for school-aged youth. Her mother had no idea about the impact of that program on her daughter until Serenity opened a Christmas present that was highly technical, and she knew exactly how to program the toy because of her Y-based STEM experience. "Nobody was more surprised than I was," said Amy. She unwrapped the gift and yelled out, "I know how to put this together. I learned at the Y."

As a working mother who commutes from Bellingham to Hopkinton each day, the Y is an economic lifesaver for the Hartland family. "Not only is my daughter at home at the YMCA, but she learns, explores, and has her second family of friends there," supporting an historical tenet of our YMCA to bring a community together to nurture the potential of children.

When Amy is asked about what pops into her head when she thinks about the Y, she quickly and easily responds, "Relief."



“ I couldn't do it without the Y.”

– Amy Hartland

# MEET ME AT THE Y WHERE FAMILY MOMENTS MATTER



Uncertainty, isolation, frustration. Three words that Raul Flores uses to describe the challenges that his son Christopher Flores faced while growing up with autism. Never leaving the house, lacking confidence and struggling to achieve any independence, Chris persevered with his own inner strength and the incredible loving support of two devoted parents, and four older brothers dedicated to his well-being.

Two years ago, Chris's life changed. His parents Raul and Maria moved to North Attleboro joining their son Brian, former football standout at Boston College and a longtime coach for the New England Patriots. Brian has a family membership at the Hockomock Area YMCA and started bringing Chris to play basketball.



Chris with his friends on the Y's unified basketball team

And so began a transformation as the Flores family learned about our Y's Integration Initiative. Occasional visits to play basketball evolved into frequent weekly visits for a myriad of recreational activities and social opportunities.

It is the social aspect of our Initiative and the Y in general that has made all the difference. Raul beams, "We are all so happy that Chris comes to the Y. He complains if he doesn't come."

When Chris was asked about the friends he has made at the Y, it was a long list. He rattled off the names, "Luke, Ben, Martin, Danny, Dennis, Shawn, Mike, Izzy, Matthew, Jim, the other Mike, and Barbara," to name a few. All this from a young man who has been non-verbal the vast majority of his life. Now he quickly will tell you he likes 'Seinfeld', 'Everybody Loves Raymond,' and 50 Cent.

Chris's new found independence makes his dad so proud and pleased. "Chris now has his own key and can come home by himself. Last year we went to Worcester with his Y basketball team for a tournament and actually stayed in a hotel. Chris rode the bus with all the other boys, and at the games sat with his friends and not his mother and father."

Raul Flores proudly exclaimed, "Chris is so happy!"

Because of an inclusive, non-judgmental, and most of all welcoming environment, there are now three words in Chris Flores' life that have changed. Uncertainty, isolation and frustration have been replaced by the words confident, independent and hopeful.

Maria, Brian, Raul, and Chris Flores



“Chris has made so many friends and he has gained so much confidence at the Y. He has also become much more independent.”

– Raul Flores

# MEET ME AT THE Y WHERE LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED



"It took me 55 years to get here," laughs Nancy Weihrauch.

Nancy and her family have been Y members for 15 years since her daughter Emma was 5 years old. Weigh to Change is a ten week wellness program offering education and support with fitness and nutrition. The model was developed by staff at our YMCA and combines both personal training and nutrition education on a weekly basis in both individual and group settings.

Nancy joined the program in 2017 at the Foxboro Y. In talking about the program's uniqueness and what sets it apart from other programs she has tried, Nancy shares

that Weigh to Change is comprehensive, addressing nutrition and exercise all at the same time.

Through the program, Nancy lost 57 pounds and 64 inches.

The Weihrauch family took an Alaskan cruise last year. This vacation was less about food and much more about hiking, walking and even doing a 5K. Reflecting on the trip and her new way of living, Nancy affirms, "I absolutely feel stronger, more confident and happier."

Nancy says the Weigh to Change group setting is what keeps her accountable. "There's something about the camaraderie, about the people in the Weigh to Change group and taking the classes together. We share the same struggle. We have different stories, but the same struggle. There's just a connection," says Nancy. "The support—from staff and participants—is incredible, very real, very genuine."

Nancy adds, "The group of friends I have made through the program are my best friends. I go out with them every week. We work out together and keep ourselves accountable to each other."

Not only has Nancy gained new friendships, she's gained a new relationship with food and fitness. "This program is more than exercise or a 'diet.' It is a lifestyle change. And the fact that this program exists for people is so important."



Nancy with her daughter Emma (left) and Weigh to Change program friends Melissa and Lauren

"It's not the weight or inches lost that have impacted me as much as the gift of being able to participate in my life now."

— Nancy Weihrauch

# THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Patriots Captain Matthew Slater, our 2017 Legends Honoree, at Legends Ball at Lake Pearl



The starting line at our Foxboro 5K



PGA Tour Professional Patrick Reed with our Unified Golf Team at the practice round of the Dell Technologies Championship



Kids play, grow and thrive in our child care programs



Team Rival, a peer leadership conference at Gillette Stadium created by the Norfolk District Attorney's Office



The Spier Family receives the Chairman's Award at our Annual Meeting



Our Youth Theatre program performs



Team LIVESTRONG and the Try Club at our Triathlon



New friendships being made over healthy lunches at our Milford Summer Food Service Program



CVS Health receives the LIVESTRONG at the YMCA Community Champion Award



# WHERE COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER



Campers at our Bernon Family Branch enjoy our Rockland Trust Family Splash Park



Friends and sponsors enjoying our Legends Golf Classic at TPC Boston



Teens congratulating each other during our Adventures in Respect program at the Capt. Kyle Van De Giesen Outdoor Leadership Center



Kids explore our tree climbing elements at summer camp



Families enjoy being active and having fun at our Healthy Kids Day at Patriot Place



Our Y partnering with the GetReal Food Campaign created by Julie Kinney and Donna Morin, pictured with Jeff Kinney (center)



Integration Initiative golf clinic at TPC Boston



Gymnasts gain confidence and skills in our youth programs



Congressman Joe Kennedy visits our after school care program making lava lamps with kids as part of our STEM learning



1,215 individuals were employed by our YMCA in 2017, 26% of staff were under age 18

# 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 †  
George and Nancy Danello  
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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

# 2017 LEADERSHIP DONORS

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† deceased

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Microsoft  
Sarah Mihaly  
Gwen Miller  
Mirror Boutique  
Richard and Monica Mitchell  
Moms Club of Foxboro  
Moms Club of Franklin North Chapter  
Moms Club of North Attleboro  
Lois F. Moore-Rogers  
Joseph M. Morgan  
Barton and June Munro  
Steve Mutchler  
National Grid  
ND Landscape  
Joan and John Neenan  
New Dimension Fabric Protection & Cleaning  
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Frank Bonfilio and Heather Norton  
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Panagiotis and Helen Manolios  
Carol and Geoffrey Paquin  
Partners Health Care System, Inc  
Benjamin and Sally Patch  
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Jeremie Smith  
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Splitsville and Howl at the Moon  
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Amy Tucker  
United Way of Greater Plymouth County  
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Cristina Wilson  
Judy Wilson  
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Andrew Yablin  
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Robert and Brandy Young  
The Zeiger Family  
Sam Zhang



Thanks to the inspiring support of our generous investors, our Y awarded \$2,017,318 through confidential scholarships and program subsidies in 2017, providing life-changing experiences for children and families in our community and being there when families need us most.

We believe that our cause is our community and we strive to better our community 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 with us.

# VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP

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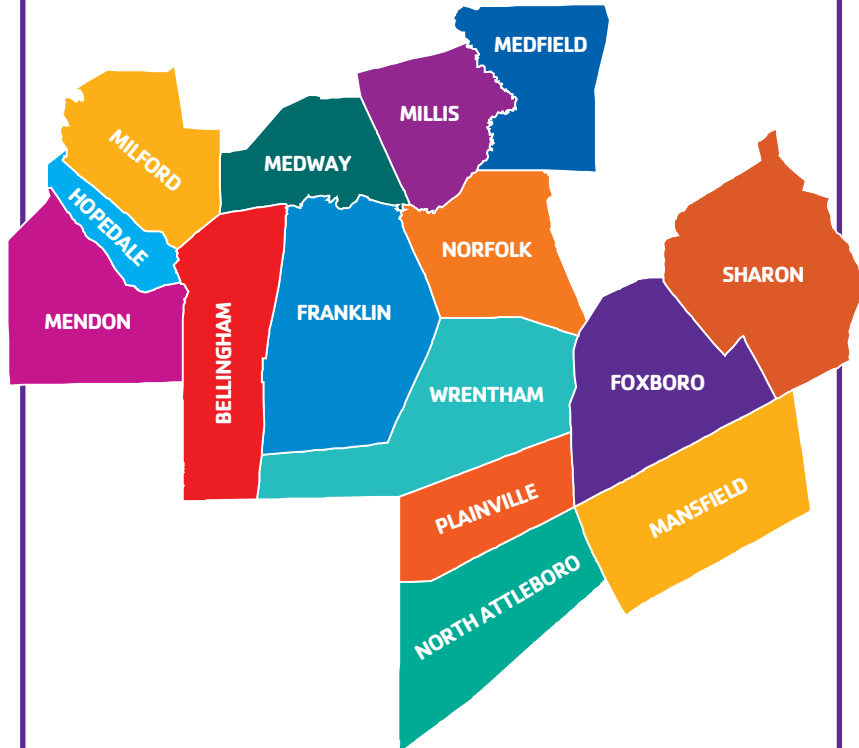
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# WHERE LIVES ARE ENRICHED

Every day our mission and vision drive us to meet the emerging needs of our 31,423 members and the fifteen communities we are privileged to serve.



## 2017 BY THE NUMBERS



SERVED 9,516 MEALS TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES at our Summer Food Service Program at three locations in Milford.



EMPLOYED 1,215 INDIVIDUALS IN 2017. 26% of staff were under the age of 18.



SERVED 3,155 KIDS IN 12 COMMUNITIES THROUGH ADVENTURES IN RESPECT, our bullying prevention program.



PROVIDED \$2,017,318 IN CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAM SUBSIDIES ensuring our friends and neighbors in need benefit from a YMCA experience.



152 KIDS ENJOYED OUR NEW HORIZONS CAMP, which provides increased support for campers with special needs in our traditional camps.



EXPERIENCED THE BEST SUMMER EVER WITH 11,099 CAMPER SESSIONS.



1,868 PROGRAM AND POLICY VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTED 31,685 HOURS, advancing the mission of our YMCA.



SERVED 1,189 CHILDREN THROUGH OUR PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL AGE CHILD CARE PROGRAMS. We are proud to be the largest licensed provider of child care in our service area.



PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE TO FOXBOROUGH, FRANKLIN AND NORTH ATTLEBORO HIGH SCHOOLS OUR AQUATICS CENTERS resulting in 280 athletes having the opportunity to be on a high school swim team.



13,980 TEENS PARTICIPATED IN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS at our 3 branches, Foxborough High School and The Zone, our downtown Teen Center in North Attleboro.



## 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.



## HOCKOMOCK AREA YMCA

**Bernon Family Branch**  
45 Forge Hill Road  
Franklin, MA 02038  
508.528.8708

**Invensys Foxboro Branch**  
67 Mechanic Street  
Foxboro, MA 02035  
508.543.2523

**North Attleboro Branch**  
300 Elmwood Street  
North Attleboro, MA 02760  
508.695.7001

**Mansfield Arts and Education Center**  
40 Balcom Street  
Mansfield, MA 02048  
508.339.3066

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