



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# A GREATER PURPOSE

**YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON  
2021 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT**



## A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The YMCA has always been an integral part of the community. Every time that there is a deeper or greater need, the Y shows up to ensure that people don't go without assistance. The sustainability of YMCA services is vital to our community.

2021 was an impactful year with over **300,000 LIVES** transformed. The YMCA is not just a place, but a purpose. Today, we are transforming to unify communities and to provide opportunities **FOR ALL**.

For over 135 years the YMCA of Greater Houston has focused on empowering young people, improving health and well-being, and inspiring action in and across communities.

### WE'RE PROUD OF OUR PROGRESS. BUT WE'RE NOT DONE YET.

As an organization we are committed to **strengthening the bonds that tie us together** in community and being **responsive to critical community needs**. The Y is grateful for and humbled by the continued support of many. It's because of this generosity that we can continue to advocate for all in the Greater Houston community.

Thank you for being a vital part of this effort.



Stephen Ives | President & CEO



# \$54MM+

## IN 2021

### PUBLIC/PRIVATE SUPPORT

## IMPACT IN ACTION

In 2020 the YMCA of Greater Houston Board approved moving forward with the introduction of a new venue unlike anything else in the Y portfolio. The Holcomb Family YMCA is a unique outdoor facility featuring a 12,000-square-foot pavilion with turf, multi-purpose court for basketball, pickleball and other sports and a one-of-a-kind outdoor fitness center. This innovative new venture has engaged more than 1,500 Impact Members to date since opening in 2021.

The Y is transforming to create lasting impact in our communities.

Throughout this report you'll see what philanthropic support made happen and how our efforts impacted the lives of thousands of our neighbors across the Greater Houston Area.

Capital Projects

\$4,626,100

Program Support /  
Financial Assistance

\$7,835,698

Endowment Contributions

\$426,866

United Way

\$1,919,121

Government Grants &  
Other Support

\$39,474,504





# OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

1

## UNIFYING COMMUNITY

The Y helps create inclusive communities and ensures everyone has equal opportunity.

### OUTREACH

The YMCA Outreach Initiative team currently operates Opportunity Centers across Houston. The Outreach Initiative team approaches opportunities to work with families in the communities we serve with holistic and collaborative intention. With the support of community partners and Y volunteers, Opportunity Centers are able to create access to opportunities for youth, families and teens.

### IMPACT IN ACTION:

Y on the Fly is an innovative mobile Makerspace designed to bring coding, robotics, programming, mechanics, and circuitry, along with creative fabrication into every neighborhood. The more children who become exposed to these ideas, and the means to build and create in a stimulating environment, means that we can empower today's children to solve tomorrow's problems.

**270 Youth were served in 2021 in the first year of operation.**

**MLK Day of Service** calls for Americans to work together to strengthen and improve their community. This event engaged 248 people as community Changemakers, bringing about meaningful impact.

**Safety Around Water** – **2,182 participants** completed the program learning life-saving water safety skills

Served **105,412 meals** to families in the Houston area totaling 2 million pounds of food

**\$1.4 million in financial assistance** for membership

Assisted **26,676 families** to ensure they had essential nonfood items



2

## RESTORE HOPE AND WELL-BEING

The Y is committed to be a source of strength and encouragement to all we serve.

Programs at YMCA International Services, such as our Refugee Resettlement Program, Immigration Legal Services and The Trafficked Persons Assistance Program are restoring hope and providing support for our community's most vulnerable.

- Helped 390 clients to be placed in jobs earning an average wage of \$13/hour.
- Completion of vocational courses allowed 29 clients to obtain upgraded employment with an average wage of \$17.48/hour.
- The Immigration Legal Services counseled 11,553 individuals with legal "Know Your Rights" information.
- Welcome Program provided 412 individuals with YMCA resettlement assistance.
- 4,748 minors served with advocacy, home visits, legal representation or post release follow-ups.
- The Y's Child Sex Trafficking Advocates helped 106 youth victims of sex trafficking by providing intensive emotional support and victim-centered services.

### IMPACT IN ACTION:

The YMCA of Greater Houston has been resettling refugees for 44 years and is recognized as a leader in the Houston newcomer community. Together with our partners, YMCA International Services pledged to resettle 6,000 Afghan Allies and raise local dollars to supplement government aid to ensure that the Afghans arriving in Houston have every opportunity to become self-sufficient and contributing members of the Houston community.

**4,300 Afghan Allies resettled to date.**





# 3

## END ISOLATION

Isolation and loneliness are enduring issues that have been magnified by the pandemic. That's why the Y continues to unite neighborhoods to build meaningful human relationships for seniors, teens, and families.

- 13,804 senior members in ForeverWell programs
- 9,965 virtual event participants
- Return of in-person connections for senior citizens
- Y Teen L.I.F.E. engaged 1,915 teens through core programs such as Youth and Government, Achievers College & Career Readiness, Leaders Club, and Changemakers programs

### IMPACT IN ACTION:

Jackson was one of our teen campers this summer who has high functioning Autism. This camper has overcome insurmountable odds with the assistance of his entire teen group. The week was talent week and each age group was tasked to perform. Jackson, who does not feel comfortable being in the spotlight, stepped up to the plate and conquered his discomfort along with the help of the rest of the teens. When he got nervous, the entire collective of teens came over and sat with Jackson to coax him. Jackson is extremely knowledgeable about animals, especially snakes. Five teens memorized one of the facts Jackson taught them, and performed it. Which left Jackson at the end to deliver a joke. The group reinvigorated his confidence to join them on stage. Jackson delivered his joke with a booming confidence. For the rest of the day, he shared jokes and smiled more than ever.



# 4

## REMOVE LIMITS, REIMAGINE OPPORTUNITIES

Our Y provides children and adults living with disabilities the chance to play sports and participate in social opportunities in a safe, fun atmosphere.

- 1,055 participants in Adaptive Sports Clinics
- Youth Development Counselors for Young People with Disabilities (65 served)
- Served over 600 kids through traditional adaptive programs
- 134 individuals who participated in multiple sessions of Bright Life, a program for adults with disabilities



# 5

## INSPIRE YOUTH TO THRIVE

Through a variety of programs designed to empower our youth, we positively impact children in ways no other organization can. Y programs are elevating how youth see themselves and what they can accomplish. The YMCA ensures all youth can thrive in our programs regardless of circumstance.

### IMPACT IN ACTION:

"Even when there isn't an ongoing pandemic, childcare costs are always an issue for me. As a single mother of two young children, childcare is a necessity. I had trouble finding care and what I could find had astronomical fees, I had no idea what I would do. As I looked, I noticed that the Y offered camp close to where I work so this was great. The program was amazing and our experience was more than we could have asked for. This childcare assistance greatly blessed my family knowing that my kids are safe while I am working with other kids to provide them with a safe home."

- Y Teen L.I.F.E. (Leadership, Inspiration, Fellowship, Education) served 1,915 teens.
- 3,200 kids enrolled in summer camp programs.
- Our youth sports programs served more than 8,000 children.
- 30,000 children received school supplies through YMCA Operation Backpack.
- 5,650 children were served through school-age child-care.
- 8,000 children participated in enrichment activities including social and emotional learning.
- Provided enriching experiences for 644 kids through our early care programs.

### IMPACT IN ACTION:

The Miracle League aims to remove barriers that keep individuals living with physical and mental disabilities from participating on the baseball field and provides them the opportunity to enjoy America's favorite pastime.

In November, the YMCA of Greater Houston was honored to host the third annual Miracle League All-Star Game. YMCA Houston hosted more than 200 local volunteers and 112 players from two countries, 18 states, and more than 20 cities.





**YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON**  
PO Box 3007, Houston, TX 77253

**[ymcahouston.org](http://ymcahouston.org)**



YMCA Mission: To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all. Everyone is welcome.