



LAUGH LEARN GROW

Child Care • Preschool • School Age **PARENT HANDBOOK**



YMCA OF METROPOLITAN MILWAUKEE

WELCOME TO THE Y!

Thank you for choosing the Y for your child care needs! We believe the values and skills learned early on are vital building blocks for quality of life and we are dedicated to providing a safe, nurturing environment for children to learn, grow and develop social skills. At the Y, your kids will learn their ABC's, learn to share, learn about sportsmanship and, most importantly, learn how to be themselves. That makes for confident kids today and contributing and engaged adults tomorrow.

The Y offers multiple child care programs at various locations for children ages 6 weeks through 12 years including child care, preschool education, before and after-school care, and summer day camps. Programs are available at locations throughout the Milwaukee area and are open to all who wish to participate. The Y's scholarship program, supported in part through contributions to the Annual Campaign, provides funds for those in need within our available resources.

As an organization, the Y has made a commitment to quality and safety at each of our child care facilities by striving to surpass State of Wisconsin Licensing Standards and by working to maintain National Accreditation at each of our centers.

If you have any questions after reading through your Parent Handbook, please direct your questions to the Child Care Center Director or Site Coordinator/ Teacher, or refer to the YMCA's Child Care Policy Handbook which is posted at each site and available by request.



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Goals

Strengthen your family by:

- Improving communication among family members.
- Helping families share values with others.
- Increasing your family's sense of community with other families.
- Providing families with peace of mind while children are in our care.

Help children reach their fullest potential through:

- Developing self-awareness, confidence and feelings of self-worth.
- Developing interpersonal relationships.
- Values development.
- Emergent learning.
- Developing physical skills.
- · Focusing on health and nutrition.
- Following the YMCA Code of Conduct.

Create a program that provides safety, support and nurturing by:

- Surpassing the State of Wisconsin Licensing Standards.
- Maintaining National Accreditation at all YMCA Child Care Centers.
- Committing to support the four core values of the Y caring, honesty, respect, responsibility.
- Building strong developmental asset programs.

ORIENTATION

For those families participating in the YMCA Preschool Education program, an orientation will be held at the beginning of the year for all parents to receive information on activities. Additional orientations will be held for each new family as they arrive throughout the year.

Activities

Child Care activities provide each child with age-appropriate experiences which:

- Encourage self-esteem and develop positive self-image. Activities include warm staff and child interactions, challenging developmental materials, consistent daily routine, interesting and diverse activities, positive adult/child and child/child communication, and stressing that each child is valued for individual achievements.
- **Encourage social interaction.** Program activities include creative play, group time, mealtime interaction, community programs and field trips, planned family activities, teacher and child initiated activities and music, song and dramatic play.
- **Encourage self-expression and communication skills.** Activities for Child Care and Preschool Education participants include group story time, acting out stories and plays, making books readily available, show-and-tell, creative play experiences and other teacher/child initiated activities. Activities for School Age participants include group activities, storytelling, board games, arts and crafts and other teacher/child initiated activities.
- **Foster creative expression.** Activities include providing creative art materials and play equipment, using constructive toys, experiencing the fine arts through the use of community resources.
- **Encourage physical development.** Large muscle development includes group activities, sports, using playground equipment and offering classes at Y facilities. Small muscle development is enhanced through the use of puzzles, beads, creative art experience, finger play games and more.



Schedule

The YMCA Child Care Program schedule varies by the age and ability of your child and may include:

- Large Group Activities: Children are encouraged to interact in a large group, take turns, participate themselves and allow others to participate with them learning team building.
- **Small Group Activities:** Children are assisted in developing particular skills. For Child Care and Preschool Education participants, those skills include cutting, tracing, balancing, eye-hand coordination, color and shape identification, board games and more. For School Age participants, skills include arts and crafts, homework assistance, board games and more.
- Literacy Time: Child Care and Preschool Education participants are exposed to age-appropriate literature and are encouraged to use their imagination, to build vocabulary and to develop listening skills.
- **Academic Achievement:** Children are provided with activities that stimulate learning as well as assistance with homework.
- Meal/Snack Time: Children are encouraged to learn group cooperation, language development, personal discipline, positive social interaction, healthy nutrition, and to try a variety of different foods.
- Social Skills Development: The Y's core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility are reinforced in all activities and built into all lesson plans. Children will also be encouraged to practice personal hygiene and participate in the care of their environment.

ORIENTATION (continued)

Parent Involvement

Parents are encouraged to be involved in their child's activities.

- Parent Advocate Committee: This Child Care Center volunteer committee is responsible for helping with the development of programming and promotion of the program. This committee will also assist with all special events and fundraising activities.
- Parent Helper Preschool Education: Parents volunteer to assist teachers with classroom duties and/or to provide a snack and beverage for their child's classroom.



Discipline

Our goal is to guide children in becoming happy, responsible and cooperative participants through positive teaching techniques. In the event that behavior requires discipline:

- Teacher actions will not harm the child's self-image or embarrass the child, rather reinforce a positive self-image.
- Teacher actions will help children learn self-control, make good choices, identify and express their feelings with words and creative expression and develop an understanding and respect for one another's feelings.
- · Teachers will communicate regularly with families regarding behavioral concerns and highlights.
- Every effort will be made by staff to enlist the cooperation of the child along with parents to solve problems as a team.
- Additional information can be found in the YMCA Child Care Policy Handbook which is available at the program center/site.



ADMISSION/ENROLLMENT

The YMCA provides safe, quality care for children at various sites throughout the Milwaukee area.

- Any child age 6 weeks to 12 years is welcome to participate in the program appropriate to their age.
- · YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee Child Care programs do not discriminate by race, color, sex, national origin, creed or special needs.
- All required forms as listed below must be on file by the first day of attendance.

Child Care/Preschool Participants

- · Day Care Child Enrollment and Health History
- Day Care Immunization Record
- Child Health Report
- Day Care Intake (for children under 2 years)

School Age Participants

- Day Care Child Enrollment and Health History
- Day Care Immunization Record
- Child Health Report (For children under 5 years)
- All fees are due in advance of service.
- · Parents should update all information, including additional immunizations, change of address, telephone number or family situations as needed. Please check every six months to make sure all information is current.
- · Additional forms may be required, including consent for any research and testing, field trip permission slips, school age agreement plan to come or leave the program from home, school or other activities.



DAILY SCHEDULE AND NEEDS

The following procedures have been developed to ensure effective operation at each of our sites with your child's safety as our main concern.

Arrival

- Sign your child in and out each day on the sheet provided by the center/program.
- Children must be escorted by an adult to the classroom. A list of persons authorized to pick up your child must be noted on the enrollment form.
- · Inform your child's teacher of any special needs for the day. If possible, write them on a note near the sign-in sheet.
- · Children may not arrive prior to the scheduled starting time and teacher must be present to accept the child.



Snacks/Meals

Nutritional provisions vary by program as listed below.

• Child Care program participants:

- Parents provide bag lunches at locations where hot lunch is not provided. Under Wisconsin State Licensing Standards, children must have one portion each of fruit, vegetable, protein and milk; or two fruits or two vegetables and one protein and milk for the midday meal. Child Care staff monitor lunches to be certain children are meeting these requirements.
- A nutritious snack will be provided in the morning and afternoon in full-day programs.

• Preschool Education participants:

- Parents are encouraged to provide nutritious snacks and beverages. Snack sign-up sheets are available with the teacher.

• School Age participants:

- An afternoon snack will be served with a menu available for review. The nutritional value of our snacks is commensurate with state quidelines.

Clothing

- Please be sure your child has appropriate clothes for indoor and outdoor play (boots, scarf, hat and mittens are required for outdoor winter play).
- For Child Care and Preschool Education participants provide:
 - Washable play clothes.
 - Comfortable shoes.
 - Label all clothing!
 - Clothing children can put on and take off by themselves.
 - NO jewelry or other items a child could lose throughout the day.

Supplies

- · Child Care participants should keep the following items on hand:
 - Labeled sleeping bag or blanket for children who nap.
 - Labeled change of clothes for children up to age 5.
 - Wipes, diapers, formula/milk, bib, crib sheet and blanket for infants and toddlers.
- Preschool Education and School Age participants will receive specific information as needed throughout the year.
- The YMCA is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

Quiet Time/Nap (Child Care participants only)

• In compliance with the Wisconsin Division of Early Care and Education, all children under 5 years old will have a daily nap or rest period. If, after resting for 30 minutes a child does not sleep, they may do quiet activities which will not disturb other napping children.

DAILY SCHEDULE AND NEEDS (continued)

Field Trips (Child Care and Preschool Education participants only)

- Field trips will be taken to enhance the curriculum.
- Parents will receive advance notice of any trips to be taken by the program and any fees.
- · Permission slips must be signed and returned for
- · No siblings may be in attendance unless otherwise stated.
- Parents are invited to accompany children and teachers on field trips.
- Permission for walking field trips is given on the enrollment form.

Injury/Medical Emergency

- If your child is injured at the program center/site, the director/teacher will take whatever steps are necessary to obtain emergency medical care. These include, but are not limited to the following:
 - Attempts to contact parent or quardian directly/ immediately.
 - Attempts to contact parent or guardian through emergency contact listed on enrollment forms.
- · If we cannot contact you, we will do one or both of the following:
 - Call an ambulance or paramedic.
 - Have the child taken to an emergency hospital.
 - In the event of a serious life threatening incident, 911 will be called first.

Departure

- Only authorized persons may sign a child out of the program. Please provide a list of authorized people on the enrollment form. This list will be kept on file at the center/site.
- No child will be released to the care of anyone under 16 years of age.
- For Child Care participants, the Wisconsin Division of Early Care and Education recommend a maximum of 10 hours per day for a child to be in the center.
- Anyone unfamiliar to the teacher will be asked for identification. For your child's protection there are no exceptions to this policy.
- · Please sign your child in and out each day.

Emergency Evacuation

- Plans for emergency evacuation are specific to each center/site. The plans specify the location to report to in case of a tornado and the exit to use in case of a fire. Fire/tornado drills are practiced monthly as required by State of Wisconsin licensing rules.
- · If the Y Program receives information regarding a threatening situation from Y authorities, School Administration or other credible source, the Site or Center Director will evacuate the premises based on the situation. Children will be safely escorted from the building, with a copy of the child's file and a first aid kit. If the need arises, the children will be transported to safety as soon as possible.
- Parents will be notified as soon as possible with the location of their child. Please note that there are many children in each program and it will take time to contact each parent. A sign will also be placed on the door to notify parents of emergency information. Once the Site or Center Director has been given notice to return to the building, parents will be contacted again. Remember, if the program has evacuated the building, staff will not be present to answer the telephone.

Schools Out Days/Summer Care (School Age participants only)

- Child care will be available at several locations in the Milwaukee area for full days off school. Children must be registered in advance to attend and fees are payable in advance. Availability of care for half-days off will vary from location to location.
- Summer Day Camp for your child is available in a variety of locations. Please call the Y location nearest you or visit www.ymcamke.org/daycamp for more information.

POLICIES

Fees and Payment

• Child Care participants:

- All fees must be paid in advance of service. The Y accepts cash, Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, money orders, and checks, Money orders and Checks should be made payable to YMCA Child Care.
- Fees are due in the business office on the Friday prior to attendance. A \$10 late fee may be assessed each week for fees not received by Friday. If your child does not attend on Friday, please make your payment in advance.
- A \$30 fee will be charged for returned checks.
- If an account reaches 2 weeks past due, a warning from the Child Care Director/ Manager will be given to the parent/quardian. A full payment will be due within one week of the warning.
- If account reaches 3 weeks past due child(ren) will be withdrawn from the program due to non-payment.
- Families with more than one child enrolled at the center will receive a 10% discount on second and subsequent children. Discounts will be applied to the oldest child's account.
- Credits will be given only after five consecutive days of absence due to documented illness. All consecutive days absent after five days will receive full credit. If your child is ill for five or fewer days before returning to the center, you will be charged for all days absent. After a prolonged illness you may need a physician's release to return to the center.
- Full credit will be given for in-patient hospitalization of a child. A written notice from the attending physician indicating which days the child was hospitalized may be required.
- Credit will be given for days absent due to a death in the immediate family-father, mother, brother, sister or grandparent. A maximum credit of three days will be allowed.
- Credits are given only for the above-mentioned situations. Fees are computed on a full week basis. Legal holidays, sick days or absences which shorten the week are paid for and will not be credited. Due to enrollments and scheduling in our classrooms, switching days can only be approved by the Director and will be granted when space is available.

- Refer to section on "Late Pick-Up" for information on fees charged for picking your child up late.
- A non-refundable registration fee is required at the time of enrollment.

• Preschool Education participants:

- Fees may be paid with cash, credit card, check or monthly bank draft.
- For those using cash or check, all fees must be pre-paid in full each month (September-May). Checks should be made payable to YMCA Child Care.
- No refunds will be given.
- Fees are charged in nine equal monthly payments with no credits for holiday breaks.

• School Age participants:

- The Y uses an average school year to calculate a flat monthly fee for School Age care.
- School Age fees must be paid monthly and in advance of the service. Parents may pay by mailing a check in advance each month or through a monthly bank or credit card draft.
- Nine equal monthly payments must be paid September through May. No credit will be given for holidays or non-school days. Additionally, no payment will be required for June.
- Two weeks prior notice to the School Age office is required for schedule changes which affect the number of days your child will attend.
- If a child will be out of the program for more than two weeks at a time, parents may pay 50% of the monthly fee to hold their space in the program.
- A 10% discount will be applied for second and subsequent children. The discount will be applied to the oldest child's account.
- Please remember that payment will not be accepted on site. Payment envelopes are made available for your use. Checks should be made payable to YMCA Child Care.
- A \$30 fee will be charged for returned checks.
- Failure to pay fees by the first of the month may result in a late fee of \$20 and termination of enrollment in the program. If you are having difficulty with payment, please contact the administrative office and ask about our Scholarship Program. We will work with you on fees.

POLICIES (continued)

Illness

- · Parents should notify the center/site when a child will be absent due to illness. School Age participant parents should notify the school personnel and ask that the Y Site Coordinator be notified of the absence.
- · The Y does not provide sick care. Please do not bring a child who is ill to the program.
- Upon arrival at your center/site, each child will be observed for symptoms of illness. If a child has any sign of illness and/or fever of 101°F or higher, the child will be sent home with the parent.
- If a child has no apparent symptoms of illness but displays significant behavior changes and is clearly uncomfortable and not able to participate in classroom activities, a parent will be called to pick up the child.
- If a child becomes ill at the center/site, a parent will be contacted to take him or her home. Until a parent arrives, the child will be isolated, within sight and hearing distance of an adult. If parent cannot be reached, the staff will contact the emergency contact person listed on the child's enrollment form. Because we are not licensed to provide sick care, a parent or emergency contact person must pick up the child within one hour after being contacted. Failure to do so will result in a \$20 per hour charge. This charge must be paid upon arrival to pick up the child and cannot be added to the program fee.
- To ensure proper staff/child ratio, ill children may not stay inside during outdoor play time. If your child needs to stay inside for a few days for health reasons, please keep him or her home.
- Medication which needs to be administered should:
 - Be brought directly to staff in its original container.
 - Contain written instructions as to quantity, time for it to be administered, name and phone number of doctor and any other directions for use.
 - Written authorization must be given to the Y to administer medication. Forms are available at the center/site.
 - Any over-the-counter medication must be marked with your child's name and a medication form must be completed.
 - Medications for infants must include measuring device to insure proper dosage.
 - All communicable diseases will be posted for parent information.



Late Pick-Up

- · If you are running late, please call us in advance so we can plan appropriate staffing and reassure your child.
- Staff is scheduled to work until 6:00 p.m. A fee of \$1 per minute will be charged per child for every minute after 6:00 p.m. that your child is not picked up. For Child Care participants, children who are scheduled half day will be charged after the scheduled pick-up time. Time will be determined by the clock in the room.
- Chronic late pick-ups will be grounds for dismissal.
- If your child is not picked up by 6:30 p.m., the local authorities will be called.

POLICIES (continued)

Vacation Day – Credit (Child Care participants only)

- Vacation Days are prorated according to your child's enrollment schedule and the time of year you join the program. If your child attends two days each week, four days vacation are allowed; three days per week equals six vacation days, etc. Please submit request prior to vacation with payment for accurate credit.
- Vacation days can be used for holidays, sick days or family vacations; or when the center is closed.
- To receive credit for your vacation, your request must be given to the center director prior to the vacation.
- Unused vacation time cannot be carried over into the next calendar year. Vacation credit is determined at the time of registration, and at the beginning of each calendar year.

Absences

- It is imperative that we are notified if your child will not be in attendance on a normally scheduled day. Please notify us by 10:00 a.m. using the phone listing in the back of this book. For School Age participants, inform school personnel if your child was scheduled to attend the program that day with a reminder to leave a note for Y staff regarding the absence.
- · When a child is absent without prior notification, a telephone call, speaking to the parent, will be made by 10:00 a.m. to verify the whereabouts of the child. This call will be documented.

Snow Emergency

• Child Care and Preschool Education participants:

- The Y will make every effort to stay open to meet your needs. Our programs will only close when the entire YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee Association closes. Please do not hesitate to call the center/site before heading out on a questionable day.

• School Age participants:

- YMCA School Age programs begin on the first full day of school and operate every day that school is in session. They do not operate on days when school is not in session.
- Emergency closings of any school apply to the Y program within that school.
- In the case of late/delayed start, the before school portion of the program will not be open, but the after school portion will run as usual.
- If a school closes during the school day, the after school program will close as well. In this situation, if there are any children already with a member of our staff at the time of closing, we will provide care for these children until their parents pick them up.
- If a school announces its closing after children have already been dropped off at the school age programs, parents will be called to pick-up their children.



POLICIES (continued)

Withdrawal - Program

The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee reserves the right to withdraw a child from the program if, at the Y's discretion, the enrollment of the child negatively affects the integrity of the program and/or the Y's legal obligations through and under the Division of Children and Family Services. (DCF-251)

• At Parent's Request

- Two-week notice of withdrawal is required in writing to the center/program director for Child Care and School Age participants, 30 days written notice to the teacher is required for Preschool Education participants.
- Two-week notice is required for a schedule change which affects the number of days or hours your child will attend for Child Care or School Age. We require 30 days written notice to the teacher for Preschool Education participants.
- Your signature on the enrollment form verifies your agreement and understanding of this policy.

• At the Y's Request

- Notification period prior to withdrawal is not required if the withdrawal is requested by the Y program.
- The Y reserves the option to withdraw a child for any of the following reasons:
- Non-payment of fees as agreed upon.
- Repeated failure of parents to pick child up on time.
- Failure to provide program with forms or current medical information as stipulated by State Licensing and this handbook.
- Continuous disciplinary problems.
- Hostility by parents toward Y staff or volunteers.



Child Abuse Prevention

The health and well-being of your children is essential to the Y. The Y has developed a policy on Child Abuse Prevention that includes the following provisions:

- Parents are encouraged to visit program sites at any time and do not need to make an appointment to do so. Some centers have locked entrances and individual security codes are used to enter (site specific).
- Parents will be informed about their child's program participation.
- Staff and volunteers will be alert to the physical and emotional state of all children. When any sign of injury or suspected abuse is detected, the director will be notified immediately and a report will be made to the appropriate authorities.
- The Y will offer information on Child Abuse and assistance to parents and children through workshops, counseling and resource materials upon request.
- Y staff will not release a child to anyone other than the authorized parents/quardians or other individuals authorized, in writing, by parents. Sign-in/out logs will be maintained on a daily basis and kept on file at the program site.
- Y staff and volunteers will not physically, verbally or emotionally abuse or punish children.
- Y staff and volunteers will not discipline children by use of physical punishment or by failing to provide the necessities of care such as food and shelter.
- Reference checks on all prospective Y employees will be conducted, documented and filed prior to employment. Criminal record checks are conducted on all staff and volunteers working with children.
- Training on Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) will be provided to all staff that provide care to children under age 5.
- Staff training will include information about the signs of Child Abuse and the appropriate procedures for responding to the suspicion of abuse.
- For more information on the Y's policy on the Prevention of Child Abuse and Child Abuse Reporting Procedures, refer to the YMCA Child Care Policy Handbook.



CARING

I will demonstrate CARING by adopting an attitude of service toward others.

I will be CARING by displaying a friendly and positive attitude.

I will be CARING and remember that I have a choice to be part of the problem or part of the solution.

HONESTY

I will always be HONEST.

I will demonstrate HONESTY by not allowing others to use my membership card.

RESPECT

I will show RESPECT by wearing appropriate attire. Swimsuits in the pool area and shoes, shorts and shirt in other areas of the facility. I will not wear clothing that displays inappropriate language, writing, or pictures.

I will show RESPECT to all individuals by choosing appropriate language and behavior.

I will show RESPECT by listening to music via earphones only, at an appropriate volume and with language that will not offend others around me.

I will RESPECT others by not harming anyone in a physical, mental, verbal, or unlawful manner.

I will RESPECT the Y's and other people's property.

I will RESPECT the Y by engaging in positive, constructive, and lawful activities and events.

I will show RESPECT for the Y by leaving the facility, program area and materials provided by the Y in the same condition that I found it.

RESPONSIBILITY

I will always be RESPONSIBLE for all my actions, both good and bad.

I will be RESPONSIBLE for my own choices and I understand that all my actions have consequences.

I will be RESPONSIBLE by using the Y as a resource, so that I may promote the best possible situations for myself and others.

I will be RESPONSIBLE for my own property. I will keep my belongings in my possession or secure them in a locker.

I will demonstrate RESPONSIBILITY by not bringing any valuable or dangerous items to the Y.

YMCA CHILD CARE, PRESCHOOL & SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM LOCATIONS

Child Care Business Office

161 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 4000 Milwaukee, WI 53203 414-274-0738

CHILD CARE CENTERS



DUNWOOD CHILD CARE CENTER

(Fox Point, Bayside, North Shore) 217 W. Dunwood Road Fox Point, WI 53217-3176 414-351-9622



JOHN C. CUDAHY CHILD CARE CENTER

(Milwaukee) 9050 N. Swan Road Milwaukee, WI 53224-1910 414-586-9622



NORTHSIDE CHILD CARE CENTER

(Milwaukee) 1350 W. North Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53205-1264 414-374-9450



*Accredited by the National Accreditation Commission (NAC)



*Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC))

PRESCHOOL EDUCATION SITES



DUNWOOD CHILD CARE CENTER

(Fox Point, Bayside, North Shore) 217 W. Dunwood Road Fox Point, WI 53217-3176 414-351-9622



NAC CAMP MINIKANI

Camp Minikani 875 Amy Belle Lake Road Hubertus, WI 53033 262-251-9080

FEITH FAMILY OZAUKEE YMCA

465 Northwoods Rd. Port Washington, WI 53074 262-268-9622



YMCA CHILD CARE, PRESCHOOL & SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM LOCATIONS

School Age Business Office

161 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 4000 Milwaukee, WI 53203 414-274-0738

All locations close at 6:00 p.m. Locations are subject to change based on community needs. New sites may be added or a site may be closed if attendance is too low. Parents will receive advance notice if such a change will occur.

Brown Deer

Brown Deer Middle School

Cedarburg

Parkview Thorson Westlawn

Cudahy

General Mitchell

Lincoln Park View

Elmbrook

Burleigh Dixon Swanson

Brookfield Elementary

Fox Point

YMCA Dunwood Center serving:

Bayside Cumberland Indian Hill Lake Bluff Maple Dale Parkway

St. Eugene's Catholic School

St. John's St. Monica's

Stormonth Elementary School WI Center for Gifted Learners

Hamilton/Sussex

Lannon Maple Marcy Willow Springs Woodside

Milwaukee

John C. Cudahy YMCA Northside YMCA ParklawnYMCA

Northern Ozaukee

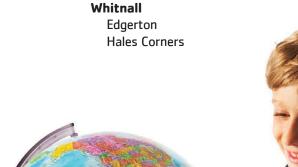
Richfield Plat

South Milwaukee

Blakewood **EW Luther** Lakeview Rawson

St. Francis

Willow Glen



SCHOOL AGE BRANCH SITES

Northside YMCA

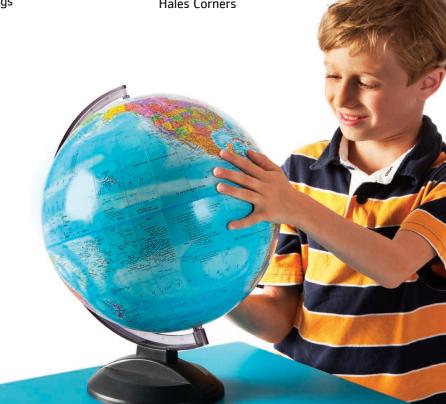
1350 W. North Ave. • Milwaukee, WI 53205 414-374-9451

John C. Cudahy YMCA

9050 N. Swan Rd. • Milwaukee, WI 53224 414-357-1920

Feith Family Ozaukee YMCA

465 Northwoods Road • Port Washington, WI 53074 262-268-9622





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

OUR MISSION

To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

OUR CAUSE

We are a powerful association of men, women and children, joined together by a shared commitment to nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility. We believe that lasting personal and social change can only come about when we all work together to invest in our kids, our health and our neighbors. That's why, at the Y, strengthening community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors in 10,000 communities to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

OUR AREAS OF FOCUS

Youth Development: Nurturing the potential of every child and teen

We believe that all kids deserve the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. That's why, through the Y, millions of youth today are cultivating the values, skills and relationships that lead to positive behaviors, better health and educational achievement.

Healthy Living: Improving the nation's health and well-being

In communities across the nation, the Y is a leading voice on health and well-being. With a mission centered on balance, the Y brings families closer together, encourages good health and fosters connections through fitness, sports, fun and shared interests. As a result, millions of youth, adults and families are receiving the support, guidance and resources needed to achieve greater health and well-being for their spirit, mind and body.

Social Responsibility: Giving back and providing support to our neighbors

The Y has been listening and responding to our communities' most critical social needs for 160 years. Whether developing skills or emotional well-being through education and training, welcoming and connecting diverse demographic populations through global services, or preventing chronic disease and building healthier communities through collaborations with policymakers, the Y fosters the care and respect all people need and deserve. Through the Y, 500,000 volunteers and thousands of donors, leaders and partners across the country are empowering millions of people in the U.S. and around the world to be healthy, connected

www.ymcamke.org

and secure.