



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Where does my money go?**

100% of the funds the Y receives provide financial assistance to those who cannot afford to pay program or membership fees, and provide funding for programs and services that require a subsidy in order to cover operating costs.

### **Who are the contributors to the YMCA?**

Individuals, businesses, and civic groups contribute funds each year to further the mission of the Y.

### **Why should I contribute when I already pay dues as a member?**

Your membership dues do not generate surplus funds, nor support the additional cost of our scholarship programs to reach out into the community to assist those less fortunate. In order for us to open our doors to children, seniors and families in need, we must depend on charitable donations from Y friends and members like you who want to help others.

### **Do contributors receive special membership privileges?**

Contributors to the YMCA receive no direct privileges because of their charitable contributions. However, by virtue of their support:

- They specifically help maintain ongoing programs for all ages.
- They become affiliated with the worldwide movement of the YMCA in its work with people through some 120 countries around the world.
- They receive recognition as a supporter of the YMCA.

Gifts to the Y qualify as charitable deductions under the guidelines provided by the Internal Revenue Service.

### **What is the difference between a fitness facility and the Y?**

The YMCA, unlike private, for-profit fitness facilities, has a purpose and philosophy built into its programs, recognizing that there is more to achieving good health than strengthening muscles. The mission of the YMCA is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. Christian principles include Honesty, Caring, Respect, and Responsibility, our Character Development core values. Character Development is a component in every YMCA program. The YMCA is an inclusive charitable organization and turns no one away because of religion, ethnic origin, ability, age, nor inability to pay.

### **Who decides how contributions are used?**

The volunteer board members approve the annual operating budget and regularly monitor revenues and expenses over the course of each fiscal year.

### **What pledge payments are accepted?**

The YMCA is pleased to handle contributions in any manner the investor wishes. Checks for the full amount are welcome. Contributors may choose the option of monthly payments through bank drafts and credit card drafts. We are also able to accept credit cards for a one-time payment.

### **What will my small donation do for a large organization like the YMCA?**

Being a community-based organization, the Y depends on support from friends and supporters at all levels. Donations of any size will make a difference!