



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

ANWAR'S STORY

Downtown Seattle Y Partners With Youth Impact

Toward a Brighter Future

I was 4 when I went into foster care. The first home was a couple who couldn't have kids of their own. After that I went through a series of placements, including group homes. From age 10, I struggled with my sexuality. Once I got to the YMCA, I received wonderful counseling services through the Y's Family Services & Mental Health program. The counseling helped me maintain my foster family within the YMCA for over 5 years.

During my time at the Y I was able to develop a support system and build relationships that helped me with my journey of "coming out" and feeling comfortable in a new placement. I fully came out September 2010, and I'm not looking back. I'm preparing to move out on my own with one of my friends. The YMCA and my current foster family have really been a huge part of me developing the confidence to move out of foster care and become independent. I'm proud of the way things have turned out. I thank God for paving a way in life for me.

**"I'M PROUD OF THE WAY THINGS
HAVE TURNED OUT."**

-ANWAR



PARTNERS WITH YOUTH

The YMCA Partners With Youth Campaign provides funding to ensure everyone in our community can dream of a brighter future. The Y's therapeutic foster care services are part of an array of life-changing programs supported by Partners With Youth funds. 97 cents of every dollar goes directly to programming, so your gift stretches further to help people like Anwar develop to their fullest potential. Join us today!

DOWNTOWN SEATTLE YMCA

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Everyone is welcome. Financial assistance is available. The **YMCA of Greater Seattle** strengthens communities in King and south Snohomish counties through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.