

# “Painting a Brighter Future” Partners With Youth 2009

Case for Support	
Critical Community Issues	YMCA Response to These Issues
<b><i>Building Strong Families</i></b>	
<p>⇒ Working families need a safe place to care for their children after school. With the number of families needing assistance to participate increasing every year, families are looking to the YMCA to provide <b>quality school-age childcare solutions</b>.</p> <p>⇒ In today’s changing world, parents are looking for ways to spend time with their children and also for a <b>forum to connect with other parents for support and resources</b>.</p>	<p>⇒ The YMCA offers quality childcare and preschool services in the Shoreline &amp; Edmonds School Districts. The YMCA is helping struggling families by providing <b>scholarship assistance to 43% of participants, but need continues to grow</b>.</p> <p>⇒ The YMCA supports families by offering monthly, low-cost <b>family nights</b>, free programs like <b>Money Strong Families</b>, a new <b>single parent family support group</b> and the <b>parent-child program</b> which provides fun opportunities for dads to spend time with their daughters.</p>
<b><i>Growing Healthy &amp; Successful Youth</i></b>	
<p>⇒ Youth between the critical ages of 9-11 (tweens) are in need of safe &amp; enriching activities that allow them to <b>develop an interest in hobbies, experience new activities</b> and receive assistance with homework and school projects.</p> <p>⇒ Too many <b>middle &amp; high school students</b> are exhibiting risk-taking behavior between the time school gets out and when their parents get home. Funding for our after school programs continues to be a priority in our community.</p>	<p>⇒ With the new Dale Turner Family YMCA, we are excited to begin offering youth age-appropriate activities which <b>encourage creativity</b> and provide opportunities to receive <b>educational support</b>.</p> <p>⇒ Partners With Youth support will make it possible to offer a greater range of supervised educational &amp; recreation programs for middle &amp; high school students in our new <b>Youth Development Center</b>. We will continue to provide school-based activities <b>through our Hang-Time programs</b>.</p>
<b><i>Total Lifestyle Health Transformation</i></b>	
<p>⇒ Families in our community are looking to the YMCA for health and wellness options that the whole family can enjoy. By combining healthy activities with family time, the YMCA is making it easy and fun for families to make healthier choices.</p>	<p>⇒ Activities like <b>youth sports, swim lessons, a tween fitness program, family wellness classes, and cooking programs</b> give parents creative ideas for entertaining and spending time with their children.</p>

