TOGETHER, YOU’RE MAKING AN IMPACT
A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

Now is a time of great opportunity, especially for youth. Science and research offer a wealth of insights into how to ensure that children learn and thrive, yet opportunity still eludes far too many children and youth, as well as many adults and seniors.

Now, more than ever, the work of the Y is critical for communities to thrive.

The Y offers programs and services that lift up children and families and give everyone an equitable opportunity to flourish. Together, we are making a real difference for kids, families, and for those who need the Y the most.

In 2015, the Y provided crucial programming and services to more than 239,300 members and participants in programs ranging from summer camp to chronic disease prevention, after-school academic enrichment programs to youth violence prevention, leadership training to college and career prep, housing for homeless teens to training for foster parents, and summertime meals to daily child care.

With your help the Y is tackling some of the greatest challenges facing children and families—building stronger relationships, safe places, and support systems for our youth, adults, and families.

Thank you for choosing the Y to help address these critical needs, and more importantly, for choosing to be a part of this amazing community.

The success of this past year is because of you. Together, we are making an impact on the most important issues facing King County’s youth, teens, and adults for today and years to come.
For more than 140 years, the Y has been motivated by the same mission: provide consistent leadership and drive work that addresses the challenges facing society. At the core of this work is the passion, commitment, and dedication of thousands of volunteers, members, and donors. The Y relies on the expertise, guidance, and financial support of community members, like you, and our dedicated volunteer boards to ensure we build a community where all people, especially the young, are encouraged to develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind, and body.

### 2015 YMCA OF GREATER SEATTLE LEADERSHIP

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SUPPORTING ALL YOUTH
prepare for college, career, and life

Academic Enrichment

The ability to educate all children with the support they need to succeed is critical to their future success. Unfortunately, as the income gap has drastically widened, so too have the education achievement and opportunity gaps for too many children.

Research shows, the earlier children are introduced to academic intervention programs, the more likely they are to succeed—not just in elementary school, but all the way through high school, college, and career. Children who are reading proficiently in the third grade are four times more likely to graduate from high school on time than their struggling classmates. Children living at or below the poverty line are at even greater risk of not graduating on time.

YMCA Powerful Schools

With your support, YMCA Powerful Schools is just one of many YMCA programs reducing the academic achievement and opportunity gaps for youth throughout King County by creating strong partnerships with public schools to help children thrive.

Through academic intervention, in and out-of-class learning, family learning and school readiness programs the Y provides the support to all children for them to succeed both in and out of school.

The program also provides enhanced learning opportunities and one-on-one student support in schools that do not have the resources or expertise to provide them.
Srilakshmi “Sri” Remala does not take education for granted. She came from humble beginnings as a first-generation Indian American. Sri’s father grew up in a small village in India, worked hard to get an education at an Indian university, and moved his family to America when Sri was one year old.

“I always saw that education was really important,” Sri says. “My sister and I were told as girls we could do anything we wanted, but we needed an education to stand on our own two feet.”

Sri now runs her family’s foundation alongside her sister, sits on the YMCA Powerful Schools Board, and works for an education technology company. Her work on the YMCA Powerful Schools Board began seven years ago when Powerful Schools was an independent, community-based organization.

She is proud of the growth and strategic planning of the program over the years, including the merger with the Y.

“When we started discussions to bring Powerful Schools with the Y, we wanted to make sure it was the right fit for both parties,” says Sri. "The Y’s youth development piece is a strong asset that not a lot of other people in the community are doing. It fills a great gap.”

For Sri, her work to bridge the education gap is about providing youth with the tools they need to be successful down the road. Studies show that a student’s reading level by third grade is a key indicator to their future graduation rates.

"Giving to education means creating opportunity," says Sri. "Investing early prevents the achievement gap from growing too big, and makes sure we’re giving kids the opportunity to achieve—especially when we know those kids’ circumstances don’t expose them to the same opportunities as other kids.”
Vincent is a thriving sixth-grader, taking honors classes and keeping himself busy with afterschool activities. But a few years ago, school was a struggle for Vincent. He had trouble paying attention in class, and was often sent home for behavioral issues and outbursts.

But shortly after starting at a new school in second grade, Vincent was introduced to the YMCA Powerful Schools program, giving him opportunities to learn new skills, get extra support in classroom subjects, and participate in enrichment classes like wood working, drumming, and fustal.

He gained confidence in himself and the motivation to do well in school. He was surrounded by positive role models and made new friends.

“They did a great job in supporting Vincent through his tough years,” says Vincent’s mom, Nicole. “The staff always kept a close eye on him and kept in close contact with me as the parent so we were able to work together to make sure Vince stayed on the right track.”

When Vincent isn’t playing soccer or Frisbee afterschool, he volunteers at his former YMCA Powerful Schools site, where his younger brother attends, and his mom now works.

“Powerful Schools has played a major role in Vincent’s success by giving him something to look forward to,” says Nicole. “He went into middle school with more confidence because of the friendships he has created, the skills he learned from various activities, and the guidance he was given.”
2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The YMCA of Greater Seattle is dedicated to the effective stewardship of resources entrusted to us by our donors. Our goal is to maximize benefits to our members and participants as we meet expenses and use remaining funds to invest in our facilities, technology, and other capital improvements.

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<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2015*</th>
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*unaudited

Please see the audited financial statements for full details. Contact Julie L. Brown, SVP/Chief Financial Officer, at 206 382 5000 or visit seattlemca.org.
EVERYONE DESERVES A BRIGHT FUTURE
Combating Homelessness

The Housing Program for Young Adults

It is estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 youth and young adults experience homelessness each year in King County, and more than 1,000 are homeless on any given night.

For a host of reasons, youth find themselves in need of the Housing Program. Approximately 40 percent of our community’s homeless youth belong to the LGBTQ community and were forced to leave home. Mental health and addiction drive some youth from their homes. Some are asked to leave home for economic reasons, or are full-time working youth but cannot afford to pay rent.

The Housing Program offers more than 250 units of housing for young people, more than any other provider of youth housing within our community. Support for this program ensures that youth and young adult families in need receive temporary or permanent housing placement or housing vouchers and dedicated case managers to help them find stability and plan for their future.

FUNDING CRITICAL COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR 20 YEARS

As Wells Fargo looks to make the most significant impact on critical community needs with their nonprofit giving, the Y comes to front of mind. Their nearly two decades of support have helped fund much-needed programs and services run by the Y in local communities.

“All of our funding goes to supporting those with the most need throughout our community, especially those in the low- to moderate-income areas of our region,” says Mark Dederer, Senior VP of Community Affairs & Foundation for Wells Fargo. “We want to make sure every community is a good place to live and work.”

Wells Fargo recently granted the Y $40,000 to support the YMCA Housing Program for Young Adults, combating youth homelessness in the greater Seattle area.

“So many people look at the Y as just a gym, but it’s really about the services they provide to the community,” says Mark. “Now, more than ever, the issues with increased homelessness needs our attention. There is so much need throughout the county and we are happy to be able to support a program like this.”

Wells Fargo’s support will ensure hundreds of youth and young adults have access to the stability and support they need to create brighter futures.
Learning to drive and finishing college are assumed milestones for most young adults, but for James they seemed like unachievable goals. Living without permanent housing for nearly five years, couch surfing and often spending the night in public parks made completing high school an enormous challenge.

When James was accepted into Extended Foster Care, a state-funded program for 18-year-old foster youth to continue to receive foster care services, James’ foster mom connected him with the Y where he was able to access critical education and employment resources.

College and a driver’s license are now things James can cross off his to-do list, thanks to the donor-funded services and support he’s received through the Y.

“The staff have been there for me in so many ways, with education and personal issues,” James says. “They helped me get housing, food assistance, textbooks, and clothing.”

Your support provided James with a stable living situation from the Housing Program for Young Adults, and access to the tools and resources he needed to be successful.

“My life was very challenging before,” James says. “The Y resources have helped me a lot. My case manager made sure I had every resource I needed to achieve my goals.”

James is now focusing on his future and career goals. He was recently accepted into an intensive program for low-income young adults that offers hands-on and classroom training in preparation for successful technology careers. James is excited to get started and is planning to focus on computer applications.

“Without the support of the Y, my life would be much more difficult,” James says.

“Honestly, I would probably still be homeless and struggling to find work to make enough just to have a place to live.”

As a former foster youth, James struggled to find a place to live, finish high school, and achieve the most basic milestones. But with your support, he is now in a stable living situation and able to focus on his future.

A holistic approach to the homelessness problem: The Housing Program for Young Adults is one of many programs offered by the Y to our most vulnerable youth through the Accelerator YMCA branch (formerly known as Metrocenter).

Housing is just one piece of the puzzle that helps young people find stability and become self-sufficient. In alignment with the Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020, we strive to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time for the young people served. Some of the many services we provide include:

**A RESOURCE CENTER**
for job readiness services, help with scholarships, referrals to resources, and more.

**COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING SUPPORT**
including transitional housing, rental assistance, permanent housing, and eviction prevention.

**CASE MANAGEMENT**
including support for education, employment, health, and parenting issues.
ENSURING EVERYONE CAN BELONG

YMCA Financial Assistance

The YMCA is where community happens. In neighborhoods and towns across King County, your local Y is where people of all ages come together to laugh, learn, exercise, and build their sense of collective purpose and connectedness.

The Y offers dozens of camping, recreational, and sports programs that help kids grow up strong in spirit, mind, and body. Adults and seniors find acclaimed programs suited just for them, with donor-funded subsidized rates and sliding scales to ensure that Y opportunities are open to all.

Because of your support, in 2015 the Y was able to provide more than $9.5 million in financial assistance to more than 27,000 children and adults throughout King County, so that everyone can have equal access to opportunities to live healthier lives, succeed in school, and contribute to the life and vitality of our community.

SUMMER FUN, A LIFETIME OF MEMORIES: METZE’S STORY

About to enjoy her third summer at YMCA Camp Colman, Metze explains that her camp experience isn’t limited to just one week but extends to her life at home as well.

“Now I try to succeed as much as possible in all the work I start,” Metze says. “Before it would be super easy to give up on something and not care, but camp taught me that I need to finish things even if I’m only doing it for myself.

This was an important lesson for a 14-year-old who has faced her own set of challenges. Shortly after she was born, Metze’s family moved back to Mexico and didn’t return to the US until she was 9 years old.

Adjusting to a new town, school, and language without the comfort of friends and familiar surroundings was difficult. Little did she know that a donor-supported scholarship and an invitation to a week at camp would change everything.

Through her camp experience, Metze had the opportunity to make connections and discover new things about herself and others.

“People there just accept you no matter what,” Metze says. “I never thought I would live for a week with people I didn’t know—without technology and around nature. If I hadn’t gone to a new place, I wouldn’t have known these wonderful people even existed.”

Her mom, Rocio, has noticed a change in her daughter as well.

“It’s like a whole new Metze, before and after going to camp,” says Rocio. “It’s changed her life and we are so thankful for the all the opportunities at the Y, and for accepting us as part of the community.”
LEAVING A LEGACY OF CAMARADERIE AND CAMP FUN

Frank Pritchard (1920–2016)

Frank Pritchard was at the heart of YMCA Camp Orkila and the YMCA. Starting as a camper in 1932, he went on to become a counselor, served on the Camp and Association boards, and was instrumental in the growth of the camp over the last 80 years.

For Frank, camp wasn’t so much about being in nature, as it was about bringing people—from all walks of life—together.

“ln his days it was so easy to get out into the woods,” said his son Jeff Pritchard. “What resonated with him was bringing diverse people together and giving everyone the opportunity to get along together; teaching kids people skills early on and hoping it would help them throughout their whole lives.”

Frank’s experience at camp was so valuable and important that he dedicated a large part of his adult life to ensure other kids could have that experience.

“He lived his life as an example of how you should be,” says his daughter Beth Perrow. “He was so good at getting along with everyone and respecting everyone; listening to and respecting what everyone had to say. He very much believed in doing what was right for everyone.”

In 2007 he set up an endowment fund to ensure kids could have the same experiences he enjoyed regardless of their family’s financial status. After his death, his surviving family donated additional funds in his honor, which will provide 33 youth with a camp scholarship every year.

Frank Pritchard credits his people skills to his early days at YMCA Camp Orkila. His camp scholarship endowment will ensure 33 campers every year can have the same camp opportunities he had.

LEAVE YOUR OWN LEGACY: ENDOWMENT GIVING

Endowment giving allows you to express the depths of your stewardship to the programs and services that are most meaningful to you with reliable, long-term support.

To learn more about endowment giving, contact Dave Patton at donations@seattleymca.org or 206 382 7898.
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