



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER

IMPACT REPORT 2020
DARIEN YMCA



2420 POST RD,
DARIEN, CT 06820
WWW.DARIEN-YMCA.ORG

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS:

As we reflect on 2020, one major theme comes to mind—resilience! Despite challenging circumstances with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, our community partners, members, volunteers, and staff worked together to deliver the promise of strengthening our community.

Like other local nonprofits, the Y was called to rapidly respond to uncharted, unbudgeted, and different ways of operating. We quickly adjusted to our “new normal” as the world changed overnight. Businesses went dark, services stopped, and it felt as if our community collectively held its breath. In that space, we were able to lean in and rely on our cause to guide our way.

The Y has always been more than a gym, a pool, or a summer camp. We are a charitable organization focused on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility, committed to strengthening the Darien community. With dedicated and talented staff, we pledged to show up and pull together in these challenging times.

We supported our local food bank, Person-to-Person, by setting up food drives at the Y and sent volunteers and staff to the pantry to assemble family food boxes for distribution. We made calls to isolated and homebound seniors and launched enrichment programs to support hybrid school schedules. We partnered with other town departments, like Darien Human Services, to collect household goods for families in need over the holidays. We moved fitness outdoors and created virtual online offerings to keep people moving and healthy. We opened summer camp and implemented safety procedures to safely serve hundreds of Darien’s youth.

Our Y has been an enduring presence in Darien for decades and we believe, now more than ever, we are positioned to serve the community in more meaningful and lasting ways. Our staff and board of directors stand committed to working with you, our members, donors, program participants, and supporters to ensure that the Y will remain an integral part of the fabric of our community for decades to come.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Gardner".

Jennifer Gardner
CEO



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Cattano".

Michael Cattano
Board President

WHO WE ARE

MISSION: The Darien YMCA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization. Our mission is to strengthen the foundation of the community through programs, services and relationships that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

OUR IMPACT: We aim to be an effective resource and influential community partner by building meaningful, caring relationships and promoting healthy, productive lifestyles for generations.

OUR GOALS: Here in the Darien community, we've been committed to building strong kids, strong families and a strong community for over 60 years and are determined to keep doing it for at least 60 more. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, background, or income, feels welcome and has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. In 2020, we provided over \$300,500 in financial assistance and scholarships to support those in need.

We're committed to having a greater impact on the overall well-being of the community by seeking collaboration, inspiring trust and heightening awareness to foster, support and sustain youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.

OUR CORE VALUES: Our core values drive everything our staff and volunteers do to live out our mission and make a meaningful and long-lasting impact in our greater Darien community.

- Caring – We demonstrate sincere concern for others, their needs and well-being.
- Honesty – We tell the truth and demonstrate reliability & trustworthiness.
- Respect – We treat others as we would want to be treated and value the worth of every person.
- Responsibility – We do what is right and are accountable for our choices & actions.

By holding ourselves accountable to build character around our core values, we build healthy spirit, mind and body FOR ALL.

YMCA LEADERSHIP

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Melissa O'Brien, Jennifer Gardner, Tanya Stack

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Gene DeNota, Training & Exercise Director
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April Greene, Youth Services Director
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Patty Kane, Regional MarCom Director
Joe Marzano, Sports Director
Suzanne Richards, Director of Youth Development & Special Needs
The Masi Company, Facilities Management
Jessica Van Sciver, Health & Fitness Director



Melissa O'Brien, Michael Cattano, Jennifer Gardner



HERE FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

KEEPING KIDS ACTIVE AND ENGAGED DURING THE PANDEMIC

Letters from parents:

"I have 2 kids who played basketball at the YMCA this past winter. They both enjoyed Darien travel very much. I just want to let you know how appreciative we are to have had that program. It was such a tough year on these kids and I know you guys did everything possible to get them out there, moving around, and healthy."

It is hard to measure the damage that has been done by these lockdowns on the kids mental and physical health, but from what I can tell it has been enormous. Fighting to keep these programs going when others cancelled was such a big deal and we are so grateful for the YMCA's support of our children. It meant everything, thank you SO MUCH!

I also can't say enough good things about the coaches my kids had. Joe Marzano and Ira Cobb. Both great guys, great coaches, and they do thing the right way. Joe's leadership coordinating the overall program was outstanding as well. Joe has also been my daughter's coach for a few years. He has had a tremendous impact on her. Making her a better basketball player, overall athlete, and most importantly a better person. We are fortunate to have him in this town and thankful for his friendship and the example he sets for the kids. Have a great spring and summer. Thanks so much "

- Jay Davenport, YMCA Parent



"Suzanne is an absolute GEM. She is a major asset to the Y. Her warmth, genuine appreciation of children, and ability to manage amidst a pandemic have made the Drew family #1 fans!"

We have been happy, active Darien YMCA members for 9 years now with three kiddos doing everything from swim, gymnastics, and soccer - to hybrid learning lab, basketball, and babysitting room. The Y is an integral part of our weekly lives, especially during the uncertain days of covid, when a need for community and safety was felt more than ever. "

- Elisabeth Drew, YMCA Parent

FOSTERING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

2020 was a year of unique challenges for the youngest in our community. We worked to build confident kids and future leaders through programs like, Holly Pond School, summer camp, competitive swim and gymnastics teams and after-school programs, keeping safety at the forefront of our operations.

2020 IMPACT:

CAMP – A SAFE AND NURTURING PLACE:

Summer camp in full swing allowed nearly 400 kids to experience summer in a fun and safe way at the Y.

PRESCHOOL – A SAFE RETURN:

195 students belong to the YMCA's early education programs at Holly Pond School where children had the ability to discover their potential and develop their skills.

ATHLETES CREATE LIFE-LONG MEMORIES:

Over 1,300 boys and girls participate in our Y's gymnastics programs and are committed and dedicated to becoming the best they can be in and out of the gym.



1,400

In 2020, nearly 1,400 youth developed and improved skills and character values through youth basketball, baseball, soccer, field hockey, volleyball and flag-football.



900

With proper safety modifications, swim lessons got kids back in the pool. In total, over 900 kids learned how to swim at the Y in 2020.



EMPOWERING HEALTHY LIVING

From virtual wellness opportunities to reopening carefully so that members could safely return to the Y, we continued serving the community through the shutdown and beyond.

2020 IMPACT:

FACILITY USAGE:

Over 1,500 people joined the Y, and members visited over 106,000 times to find their healthiest selves. 3,592 members completed personal training sessions.

VIRTUAL Y:

The Virtual Y brought fitness and engagement to the living rooms of every age and stage of life, which was used 2,429 times in 2020.

SENIOR WELLNESS:

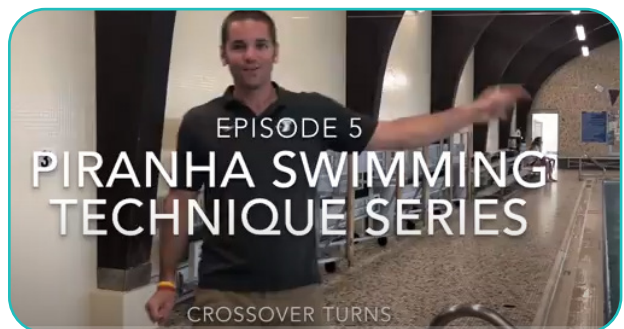
Our seniors visited the YMCA 20,029 times to participate in fitness, wellness and aquatics.

PIRANHAS- PERSEVERING WITHOUT

WATER: More than 104 young swimmers stayed active during the Y's closure by participating in Zoom workouts and connected virtually with coaches until they could return to the pool.

REOPENING SAFELY:

After a nearly 90-day closure, Y's in Connecticut began to welcome members back through their doors with thoughtful safety measures.



RECONNECTING THE COMMUNITY:

Throughout the pandemic the YMCA worked tirelessly to stay connected to our YMCA community through check-in calls to homebound seniors, virtual story times for our Holly Pond School families, community videos and private one-on-one outdoor training.



VIRTUAL STORY TIME



VIRTUAL STORY TIME:

With the help of staff and Board volunteers we recorded and emailed story times to Holly Pond School students. They loved seeing the teachers they missed so much.



COMMUNITY VIDEOS

COMMUNITY VIDEOS:

Students and teachers alike recorded and shared videos to show how much they cared about each other and the YMCA. This gesture helped the community to remain connected.



OUTDOOR TRAINING

OUTDOOR FITNESS:

When the CDC and state guidelines declared it was safe to resume outdoor fitness offerings, we moved many of our fitness classes outdoors. This outdoor option provided a much needed mental and physical outlet for members to safely engage in healthy activity.



INSPIRING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

From volunteers who gave time and resources to provide food for those in need through our partnership with Person-to-Person to members who stayed with us or supported the Y with donations, we all helped to continue the 60-year legacy of the Y by listening and responding to critical needs facing our community.

2020 IMPACT:

#STAYWITHUS:

In the spring of 2020, 762 of our members chose to #StayWithUs and continue paying membership dues throughout the closure. This made it possible for the Y to serve in critical ways.

INCREASED GIVING:

Over 380 donors contributed more than \$235,000 to help continue the work of bringing our neighbors home to the Y.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

While it was an extremely difficult year for our special needs families, 24 participants returned and participated in programs like Swim & Sail and Innovative Vocations.

PREVENTING HUNGER:

When the COVID-19 pandemic brought a devastating shutdown to our community's infrastructure, the Y's partnership with Person-to-Person enabled us to help feed hundreds of households across the greater Darien community.



#StayWithUS



VOLUNTEERISM:

Our Y community benefitted from 200 passionate individuals who volunteered over 2,100 hours of service in 2020.

THE YMCA IN ACTION

"I just finished weighing the food you dropped off this morning from the Y's Food Drive : 832.9 lbs!"

Please let your membership know we are so appreciative of this generous outpouring of support for our clients!"

**—Juri Garone, Person-To-Person
Chief Community Relations Officer**



THANK YOU 2020 DONORS

For those who stayed with us, donated to the Y, or volunteered their time and resources, we are so grateful. Because of you, the Y is able to serve and strengthen our community.

BENEFACTOR \$5,000+

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THANK YOU FOR #STAYINGWITHUS

In the spring of 2020, 762 of our members chose to #StayWithUs and continue paying membership dues throughout the closure, making it possible for the Y to continue to serve in critical ways.

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The Andrew Maurer Family
The Jacob Maurer Family
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The Mark McGovern Family
The Suzanne McGovern Family

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The Kelley McWilliams Family
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The James Murphy Family
The Jared Murphy Family

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The Murray Family
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The Amy Nelson Family
The John Nelson Family
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The O'Brien-Watkins Family
The Joan O'Connell Family
The John O'Connell Family
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The Peterkin Family
The AnnaMarie Peters Family
The Bill Peters Family

The Peterson Family
The Pettit Family
The Philips Family
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The Picon Lemus Family
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The Pittman Family
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The Pliner Family
The Plunkett Family
The Popp Family
The Megan Powell Family
The Nancy Powell Family
The Primmer Family
The Procaccini Family
The Quick Family
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The Robins Family
The Kathryn Roche Family
The Kevin Roche Family
The Rodormer Family
The Rodriguez Family
The Rodriguez-Barberet Family
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The Rojas Family
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The Romanelli Family
The Rozkewicz Family
The Rubino Family

The Ryan Family
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The Schuhmacher Family
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The Shaak Family
The Shanahan Family
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The Shapiro Family
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The Shean Family
The Sheffield Family
The Sherwood Family
The Siegel Family
The Siever Family
The Sigmond Family
The Simmons Family
The Skehan Family
The Amanda Smith Family
The Bradley Smith Family
The Josh Smith Family
The Laurin Smith Family
The Liza Smith Family
The Marion Smith Family

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The Smosky Family
The Snavely Family
The Somerville Family
The Spadaccini Family
The Spain Family
The Sparico Family
The Specter Family
The Spellman Family
The Spengler Family
The Stachurski Family
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The Elizabeth Stewart Family
The Kristina Stewart Family
The Storch Family
The Straubel Family
The Streeter Family
The Stroie Family
The Struk Family
The Dorothea Sullivan Family
The James Sullivan Family
The Sutter Family
The Swift Family
The Talucci Family
The Tamberrino Family
The Tarzia Family
The Tauber Family
The Terlizzi Family
The Thalhamer Family
The Janet Thomas Family
The Sarah Thomas Family
The Stella Thomas Family
The Thompson Family
The Tiano Family
The Tie Family
The Tierney Family
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The Toledo Family

The Tortorella Family
The Towell Family
The Phyllis Trager Family
The Sue Trager Family
The Traub Family
The Triano Family
The Trompeter Family
The Tucker-Viselli Family
The Turner Family
The Turowski Family
The Tyler Family
The Underwood Family
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The Uva Family
The Van Auken Family
The Van De Graaf Family
The Veeder Family
The Vineyard Family
The Voigt Family
The Volz Family
The Von Schmidt Family
The Vossler Family
The Vrooman Family
The Wakeman-Salmans Family
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The Wang Family
The Audrey Ward Family
The Mark Ward Family
The Warren Family
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The Washburn Family
The Wasielewski Family
The Wasnick Family
The Watson Family
The Wayland Family
The Webb Family
The Webster Family
The Welsh Family
The West Family
The Westbrook Family

The Wiener Family
The Wilcox Family
The Wilkinson Family
The Willcox Family
The Jeff Williams Family
The Thomas Williams Family
The Edward Wilson Family
The Tom Wilson Family
The Winter Family
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The Young Family
The Younkins Family
The Zaffino Family
The Zagoreos Family
The Zagrodzky Family
The Zanin Family
The Zaremba Family
The Zeiss Family
The Zelaya Family
The Zeman Family
The Zepeda Family
The Zimmerman Family
The Zionics Family

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

As a leading nonprofit organization for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, we rely on the generous support of local sponsors. We are very grateful for our partnerships with:



GIVING

Our donors make it possible for children, families and adults of all ages to have access to Y programs that are vital not only to them, but to our community. Donations allow the Y to open doors to members regardless of their ability to pay.

This Annual Report includes gifts received by the Darien YMCA between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our lists. If your name has been misspelled, listed incorrectly or omitted, please accept our apologies and contact our Development office so we can correct our records.

Karen A. Ford
Development Director
203.655.8228 ext.1358
kford@darien-ymca.org

Thank you for your support!



2020 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE			
Program Service Fees	\$4,090,870	\$204,851	\$4,295,721
Membership Dues	\$1,686,162	-	\$1,686,162
Annual Campaign	\$235,247	-	\$235,247
Contributions	\$231,195	\$30,925	\$262,120
Paycheck Protection Program contribution	\$1,159,419		\$1,159,419
Sale of supplies	\$6,895	-	\$6,895
Investment return, net	\$10,462	\$16,381	\$26,843
Gain (loss) on disposal of land, building & equipment	\$619,013	-	\$619,013
Other Revenue	\$97,263		\$97,263
Net assets released from restrictions	\$224,983	(\$224,983)	-
Total public support & revenue	\$8,361,509	\$27,174	\$8,388,683
EXPENSES			
Program services	\$6,461,097	-	\$6,461,097
Management & general	\$945,565	-	\$945,565
Fundraising	\$107,408	-	\$107,408
Total expenses	\$7,514,070	-	\$7,514,070
Change in Net Assets	\$847,439	\$27,174	\$874,613



WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER

Impact Report 2020
DARIEN YMCA



DARIEN YMCA

2420 Post Road, Darien, CT 06820

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