



THE  
Something  
*For Everyone*  
PLACE

MUSCATINE COMMUNITY YMCA  
ANNUAL REPORT 2025

# OUR VISION

The Muscatine Community YMCA, a membership movement, strengthened by diversity, nourished by its roots in Christian values, is dedicated to the empowerment of women, girls, men and boys and the development of spirit, mind and body to attain a common vision of dignity for all.

# OUR FOCUS

We believe that to bring about meaningful change in individuals and communities, we must be focused and accountable. That's why we focus our work in three key areas that are fundamental to strengthening community:

Youth Development,  
Healthy Living and Social Responsibility.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear YMCA Members:

2025 was a landmark year for the Muscatine YMCA! We are thrilled to share that this was the second busiest year in our history in terms of attendance. This high level of activity, even with a smaller membership base than in years past, demonstrates just how vital the Y is to the daily lives of our neighbors. Our primary goal for the coming year remains clear: growing our membership back to over 10,000 individuals.

While the energy in our facility is high, we continue to navigate the challenges of inflation and the rising costs associated with providing premier programs. However, our commitment to improvement never wavers. We have continued to invest in state-of-the-art fitness equipment to ensure your wellness center remains a top-tier environment for health and community and recently remodeled another racquetball court into additional fitness space.

We also saw incredible success through our signature fundraisers, which are critical to ensuring we continue making a positive impact. Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) hosted a highly successful Bowl For Kids' Sake event, and we were proud to see BBBS team up with Special Olympics for our thrilling Over The Edge event. These partnerships are the heartbeat of our fundraising efforts and directly support the youth and athletes we serve.

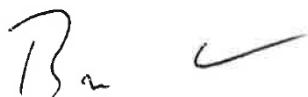
The impact of YMCA programming is felt throughout Muscatine:

- Mentorship: BBBS continues to match and serve youth across our community.
- Athletics: Our Special Olympians represented us with pride, winning numerous gold, silver, and bronze medals at the Summer and Winter Games.
- Support: Family Program Services continue to provide support groups that strengthen the family unit.
- Education: Our Character Development department provides essential care for children before and after school, alongside excellent youth programming.

As of year-end, our membership stands at 9,000 individuals. We are working hard to welcome back even more of our neighbors to reach our 10,000-member milestone.

I am deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, our selfless volunteers, our loyal members, and the entire Muscatine community. This has been a defining year for the YMCA. We are stronger than ever and perfectly positioned to serve you for years to come.

Sincerely,



Bret Olson  
Executive Director

# LEADERSHIP

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

**Kyle Fry**

Treasurer

**Adam Miller**

**Bob Allbee**

**Yuli Diaz**

**Kevin Garrison**

**Grace Heckman**

**Tim Heth**

**Mike Hickey**

**Kelly Livingston**

**Chris Scholz**

## YMCA LEADERSHIP

Executive Director

**Bret Olson**

Health Promotion Services Director

**Denise Nessmith**

Aquatics Director

**Jocelyn Paxton**

Character Development Director

**Amy Hessel**

Big Brothers Big Sisters Director/

Family Program Services Director

**Lindsey Phillips**

Marketing & Development Director

**Nicole McCleary**

Special Olympics Directors

**Emily Hernandez & Tim Atkins**

Building Maintenance Manager

**Shaun Yaddof**

Custodial Manager

**Robin Leaf**

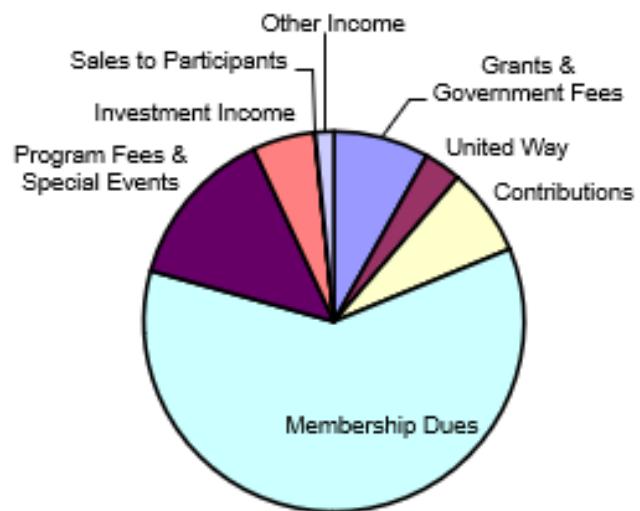
Accountant

**Terri Blinder**

# FINANCIALS

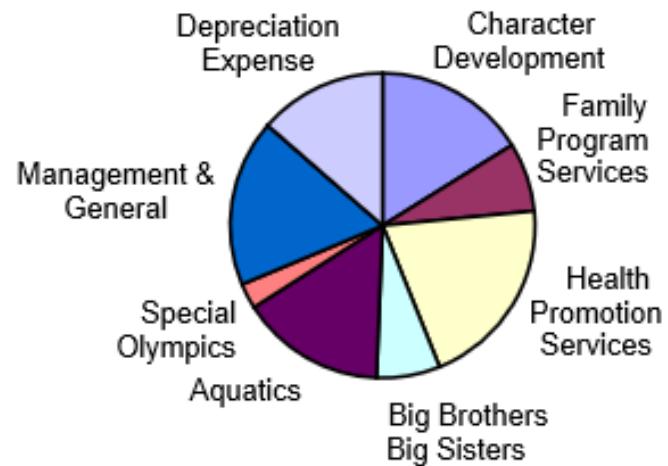
## PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE

Grants & Government Fees:	\$226,415
United Way of Muscatine:	\$88,525
Contributions:	\$208,003
Membership Dues:	\$1,687,178
Program Fees & Special Events:	\$383,834
Investment Income:	\$147,336
Sales to Participants:	\$1,537
Other Income:	\$43,927
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue:</b>	<b>\$2,786,755</b>



## EXPENSES

Character Development:	\$475,500
Family Program Services:	\$215,741
Health Promotion Services:	\$601,210
Big Brothers Big Sisters:	\$198,289
Aquatics:	\$452,106
Special Olympics:	\$79,734
Management & General:	\$521,737
Depreciation Expense:	\$400,000
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$2,944,317</b>



# DONORS

## Champion (\$10,000 and Above)

Kent Corporation  
New Hope Foundation

## Founder (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Bob & JoAnn Jensen  
Norma Lewis

## Gold Partners (\$1,000-\$4,999)

Dave & Kim Burdakin  
The Howe Foundation  
Dave Hurlbut  
Glenn & Kathy Huston  
George & Charlotte Koenigsaeker  
Mike Martz  
Midwest One Bank  
Bob & Anita Olson  
Jim & Carla Reynolds  
Jim & Tammy Stein  
Charles Vesey  
Vision Center, PC

## Silver Partners (\$500-\$999)

CBI Bank & Trust  
Wendy Durham  
Amy & Chad Hessel  
David & Alice Jones  
Dr. Nathan Olson  
Bret & Stacy Olson

Dan & Mary Kay Rohde  
Bob & Kris Weis

## Bronze Partners (\$250-\$499)

Shawn & Pam Beadle  
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Mike & Nancy Harrison  
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Melanie Kenyon  
Sarah Lande  
Ronna Lorenzen  
Dyann Roby  
Barb Sturms  
Carrie & Mike Zorich

## Century Partners (\$100-\$249)

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Floyd & Shirley Amos  
Mike & Phyllis Avesing  
Joni & John Axel  
Beckey Financial Services  
Terri Blinder  
Larry & Judy Carter  
Steve & Terri Coder  
Pete DeGabriele  
Ed & Judy Fry  
Jeff Fuegen  
Cathy Hazen  
Bob & Sandy Hayes  
Eric & Bev Knoernschild  
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Jim & Cathy Miller  
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John & Mary Kay Peters  
Lindsey & Tyson Phillips  
Cheryll & George Ryder  
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Charla Shafer  
Mike Shield  
Dr. John Sleichter  
Diana Tank  
Kathy & Jim Trosen  
Steve & Dana Wieskamp  
Konnie & Sue Wilke  
John Wojtecki  
Joe & Angela Woodhouse

## Partners (Up to \$99)

Don Anderson  
Jose Castelan  
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Robert Haller  
Tom Hickey  
Brent Hill  
Joni Kerr  
Judy Lokenvitz  
Jeff & Lisa Longtin  
Randall Miller  
Randy Naber  
Pam Pulliam  
Jo Mary Schuman  
Evan Schweitzer  
Gary & Sheryl Wieskamp



Thank you for helping us build  
strong kids, strong families and  
a strong community!

When you give to the Y, you continue to  
strengthen our community and  
move us all forward.

# BRIGHT FUTURES



Throughout the decades, social challenges have changed dramatically, and the needs of the community have relentlessly evolved. But through all these decades and all the changes, the Y has always been there as a constant and reliable source of hope, support and inspiration.

The challenges will keep coming and programs and services will continue to evolve, but our unwavering willingness and ability to support our communities will always remain at the core of the YMCA.

**It's who we are, what we do, why we exist... now and always.**

The YMCA is, and always will be, committed to nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility. This is a cause we are dedicated to and a promise we fulfill every day, to everyone who comes to us for help, in every way we possibly can.

Together, we're making a difference.

Over 1,200 members benefit from our Scholarship Membership Program.  
When we work together, we strengthen our community.

Last year, with the help and generosity of our donors, we provided over \$100,000 in Financial Assistance to children, families, and neighbors in our community.





## BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

**Lindsey Phillips, Director**

Big Brothers Big Sisters volunteers continued to contribute a phenomenal number of hours to the community as mentors. While we still have growing to do in order to hit our pre-pandemic number of children served, our agency was recognized at a National Level for a Growth Award for the 2nd year in a row!

**OUR MISSION IS TO CREATE & SUPPORT ONE-TO-ONE MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS THAT IGNITE THE POWER & PROMISE OF YOUTH.**

**OUR VISION IS FOR ALL YOUTH TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL**

**10,944**

**VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Up from 7,632

**1,271**

**SUPPORT CONTACTS  
DONE**

Up from 1050

**51.2**

**MONTHS AVERAGE  
MATCH LENGTH**

Up from 47.7

**100%**

**REPORT BIGS ARE  
VERY IMPORTANT**

**48**

**NEW MATCHES**

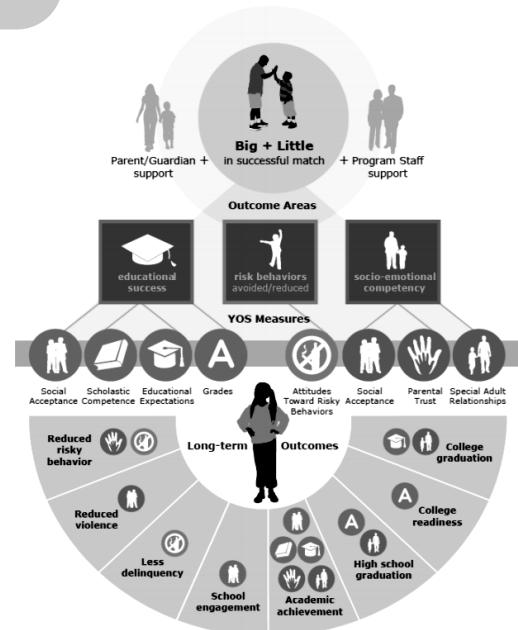
**166**

**YOUTH SERVED**

**100%**

**REPORT ALWAYS  
FEELING SAFE WITH  
THEIR BIG**

## IMPACT



# 2025 BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

## OUR COSTS

- Introducing & Supporting the Match
- Recruiting & Enrolling a Volunteer.
- General Operating & Activity Expenses.
- Enrolling a Little

## OUR DONORS

### PLATINUM SPONSOR (\$7500 +)

Charlotte & George Koenigsaecker

Craig A Jones Trucking

Olson Family Dentistry

Terri Irwin

### GOLD SPONSORS (\$5000 +)

Howe Family Trust

HNI Charitable Foundation

Kent Corporation

Plaza Storage and Properties

Anonymous

Midwest One

Robison Logistics Management

### SAFETY NET SPONSORS (\$200)

CDS Global

Dave & Nancy Wangberg

Diana Gradert

Eastern Iowa Light & Power

Katie Briesch

Mark and Vicki Krieger

Ruhl & Ruhl

Trucks Unlimited

### SILVER SPONSORS (\$2500)

Ascentra Credit Union

Musco Lighting

### LITTLE SPONSORS (\$500)

Absorbent Technologies

All Seasons Glass & Mirror

Bosch Pest Control

Butterworth Clocks

Carol Reynolds

CBI Bank & Trust

Family Eye Center

Howard Forest & Prairie

Hy-Vee

### CONTRIBUTORS

Martin & Whitacre

Mike & JoAnn Ruby

Sarah Lande

### BRONZE SPONSOR (\$1000)

Bob & Kris Weis

Bridgestone Bandag

Over the Edge was back in 2025! We partnered with Habitat for Humanity and Special Olympics Muscatine to raise money for the respective programs.

## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



## OUR STAFF

Lindsey Phillips, Program Director

Cathy Hazen, Program Coordinator

Jennifer Schweizer, Outreach & Support Coordinator

Alesha Spangler, Tipton Program Coordinator

Taryn Peterson, Match Support Specialist

## ADVISORY COUNCIL

Jason Gregory, GPC  
Alison Hosmer, Bridgestone

Gage Huston, MPW  
Charlotte Koenigsaecker  
Joelle McConnaha, MCSD

Dena Bates, HNI  
Jamie Leza, GCFM  
Edwin Colon, MCSD



## FAMILY PROGRAM SERVICES

**Lindsey Phillips, Director**

Traditions continued in 2025 with the Muscatine Community Block Party in September. Over 400 community members attended the block party hosted with 30 community partners.

At the start of the fiscal year, programs adapted to funding changes. Even with changes, FPS saw increased participation. Family Program Services offers the following **Support and Education Groups**: Mujeres Latinas, Raising Highly Capable Kids, Parent Support & Well-Being Group, Sexual Abuse Prevention, Grandparents Group "Relative Caregivers", and 24/7 Dad's. Our YPlay offers 27 hours a week of free, drop- in child care and we have seen growth there as well.

### Y Play Usage/Visits

**4,145**

Serving 164  
unduplicated families.



**847** families participated in FPS  
**2,040** units served in FPS groups

**54%** of participants are from  
Muscatine's minority communities

**21** Grandparents raising their  
grandchildren participated in  
programming

**15** Individuals trained in sexual  
abuse prevention using  
TECHNICOOL: Keeping Kids Safe on  
the Internet

**49** Dads graduated from 24/7 Dad's

### Hours of Support & Education Groups

**547.5**

New! Participants began  
logging hours of exercise  
in July.

**276 hours**



## AQUATICS

**Jocelyn Paxton, Director**

**1,281 private lessons** were given to children and adults in 2025. Private lessons are for ages 18 months to adult. They focus on the individual fitness and swimming goals of each person and are tailored to fit each person/family's schedule and needs.

**39,476** people used the pool complex, not as part of a class or group. This includes lap swim, family and recreation swim, adult fitness, and spa use. This usage is up significantly over the last several years, despite staff shortages and closures of the pool complex during maintenance and upgrades.

**8,042** people participated in water Exercise classes. For many of these people, water exercise is the only option they have to stay fit.

**Manta Rays Swim Team** is a competitive swimming program focused on good sportsmanship and stroke development.

### 2024-2025 SEASON

**10** Home & Away Competitions  
**72** Athletes on the Roster  
**19** State Qualifiers = **26%**  
**19** Regional Qualifiers = **26%**

### 2025-2026 SEASON ...SO FAR

**8** Home & Away Competitions  
**83** Athletes on the Roster  
**25** State Qualifiers (so far) = **30%**  
**24** Regional Qualifiers (so far) = **29%**





## CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

**Amy Hessel, Director**

The Character Development Program at the Muscatine Community YMCA is more than childcare or sports, it is a program designed to build on our core values to support youth. We focus on five practices that give youth the tools they need to be successful in their daily lives: empathy, emotion management, responsibility, personal development, and relationship building.

**Our Youth Sports** programs place an emphasis on the development of skills, good sportsmanship and fair play, socialization, and enjoyment of the game. The best part of Y sports is seeing the players enjoy the game and support each other. Our Soccer and Youth Basketball numbers have stayed steady the last year, even with more developmental programs and competition in the area.

**Skill Building Classes** begin at the age of 18 months and offer youth through 6<sup>th</sup> graders involvement in fitness activities. The skill building part of these programs go beyond the sports, and guide youth to help develop social norms, interactions, and confidence. Preschool and 2 year old gymnastics classes continue to fill up each session, with a 10% increase in 2025. Our Road Runners class for K-6th graders saw a 70% increase in 2025.

Peace of mind for parents, friends and socializing, learning and fun are on tap every day for families enrolled in our **Before and After School Kids' Club**. Our Kids' Club programs are definitely staying on the nationwide trend, and there is a big need for quality Child Care. Attendance in 2025 grew 10% from the previous year, averaging 100 children daily. We also have a waiting list with over 30 kids hoping for an opening in our program. Our Before School Kids' Club attendance in 2025 school year grew to 15 children, and we added an additional staff person to accommodate this increase. Our After School attendance is 150 children.

Our **Summer Kids' Club (SKC)** participants spend their days engaging in STEM, Art, Wellness and Mindfulness activities, where they are socializing, learning to work together, gaining leadership skills and finding lifelong hobbies. Parents completed a survey at the end of the summer where 100% reported that they would recommend the program to other parents and 96% of the participants (kiddos) reported they would recommend SKC to a friend. We saw a 10% increase in attendance for SKC in 2025 & registration for the program is full by 10am on opening day.

Our **Teen Center Programming** is geared toward 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders with activities and groups that focus on those five practice areas. We aim to give all youth an opportunity to be involved in something they enjoy and to find new activities and friends as well. We offer programming in fitness and recreation, leadership, arts, STEM and socializing, and we're proud of the variety of programs we offer. Several of our Teen Center participants volunteered with our Youth Sports Programs to help coach and referee games. We offer 80 hours each month of free programming for Middle School Youth.

Two additional programs that continue to grow are **Sports Camp** and **Kids' Night Out**. Sports Camp is held over Spring Break and twice during the summer months. It is a week-long, half-day camp, with emphasis on a different sport each day. Kids' Night Out hosts 20 to 25 kids once a month on a Saturday evening. Participants enjoy dinner, games, team building, crafts and a movie.

**Character Development Programs give youth a place to Be Bold, Be Strong and Belong!**



## HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES

**Denise Nessmith, Director**

The Muscatine YMCA continues to be the hub for healthy living, responding to our members' needs with exciting upgrades in programming and facility design. In 2025 our members did more than just participate; they thrived.

The most significant physical transformation this year was the renovation of our second racquetball court into a dedicated **TRX and Alternative Fitness Space**. This modernization has significantly increased our capacity for high-impact, functional training. Benefits of the new TRX space include enhanced core stability (building a stronger foundation for all fitness levels), and functional strength (multi-planar movements that translate directly to improved mobility in everyday life). It also offers great versatility & inclusivity because with its easily adjustable resistance, it serves everyone from elite athletes to those just beginning their fitness journey. We also added a new weight stack, bench, and mirrors to this space to ensure ample room and equipment during peak hours.

**Fitness classes** saw a significant increase in attendance over the previous year. Members are responding enthusiastically to both our classic offerings and our new specialized curriculum. While our Silver Sneakers programming remains a cornerstone of the Y, we introduced a new "Chair Series" to ensure every member has a path to wellness. Our new Chair Cardio class helps boost heart health from a stable, seated position. Chair Balance class targets fall prevention and stability, while Chair Strength with Bands utilizes resistance bands to build functional muscle safely.

Interest and attendance in **Middle School Workout & Weights (WOW)** classes remained steady. WOW Classes show youth proper technique and gym etiquette to safely exercise independently or with parental supervision.

Participation in our recreational offerings is booming. **Drop-in adult sports** like Pickleball continue to see significant growth in attendance, while Badminton and Full Court Basketball provide essential additional recreational opportunities for our adult members. Also, the number of adult members utilizing general instruction from our **Exercise Area Orientation** increased by 11% over the previous year reflecting a growing excitement around the importance of strength training for all ages. Our **Personal Training** offers specialized, one-on-one programming and interest remains incredibly high as members seek out the expertise of our certified staff to reach specific health and body composition goals.

YMCA staff continue to leverage strong community partnerships to improve the health of all Muscatine residents. We continued our 14-year tradition of sponsoring a local walk site for the Healthiest State Walk initiative in the Fall, and our collaborations with the Iowa State Outreach (LEAP) and many local employers ensure that our reach extends far beyond our facility walls.

2025 marked the 49th year of honoring excellence with the **Mel Steckel Award for Outstanding Senior Female Athlete**. From a highly competitive field of candidates, we were proud to honor Amelia Luna for her dedication, perseverance, and sportsmanship. Amelia embodies the spirit of the Muscatine YMCA, serving as a role model for athletes across all generations.

Exciting newness continues at the Muscatine YMCA, and we are proud to provide the spaces and opportunities where our community can thrive.



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS

## Emily Hernandez & Tim Atkins, Directors

In 2025, Special Olympics Muscatine continued its long-standing mission of providing year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, while also navigating a year marked by both profound loss and meaningful celebration.

This year, our program mourned the passing of Tracy Rininger, a beloved coach, advocate, and friend whose dedication left a lasting impact on our athletes and community. Tracy's passion, kindness, and unwavering commitment to inclusion shaped our program in countless ways. In her honor, we proudly renamed our annual softball game against first responders the Tracy Rininger Memorial Softball Game, ensuring her legacy continues to inspire athletes, volunteers, and supporters for years to come.

2025 was also a year of celebration, highlighted by Corey Leonhard's induction into the Special Olympics Hall of Fame. Corey's accomplishment reflects not only his personal dedication and perseverance, but also the strength of the support system surrounding Special Olympics Muscatine. His recognition stands as a powerful example of what is possible when athletes are given consistent encouragement, opportunity, and community support.

As our program continues to grow, 2025 also marks an exciting milestone as we introduce Unified Basketball for the first time. This new opportunity brings athletes with and without intellectual disabilities together on the same team, promoting inclusion, teamwork, and mutual respect both on and off the court.

Last year, we offered individual and teams sports in the following:

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Number of Athletes</b>	<b>Sport</b>	<b>Number of Athletes</b>
Swimming	18	Softball	35 (teams), 26 (skills)
Powerlifting	17	Flag Football	18 (teams), 22 (skills)
Bocce	26	Winter Games	21
Soccer Skills	22	Unified Golf	32
Track & Field	34	Pickleball	14 (teams), 13 (skills)
Basketball	23 (teams), 18 (skills)		

Throughout the year, Special Olympics Muscatine was uplifted by overwhelming community involvement. Local businesses, volunteers, families, and partners consistently showed up for our athletes—through fundraisers, events, and hands-on support. Funds raised through Over the Edge and other community fundraisers directly support our operational needs. These funds help cover transportation to competitions, athletic uniforms, sport-specific equipment, training resources, and other essential costs that allow our program to run safely, efficiently, and inclusively. Without this support, many athletes would face barriers to participation and our program.

As we reflect on 2025, Special Olympics Muscatine remains deeply grateful for the resilience of our athletes, the dedication of our volunteers, and the generosity of a community that continues to believe in inclusion, opportunity, and joy through sport. Together, we honor those we have lost, celebrate those who inspire us, and look ahead with excitement as our program continues to grow.

# A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF 2025





FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## OUR CAUSE

At the Y, strengthening community is our cause.

Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.



### MUSCATINE COMMUNITY YMCA

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Muscatine, Iowa 52761  
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[www.facebook.com/MuscatineY](http://www.facebook.com/MuscatineY)