



the

YMCA

EMPOWERING LIVES THROUGH GENEROSITY

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

WHATCOM FAMILY YMCA
1256 N State St, Bellingham, WA, 98225
360 733 8630 | whatcomymca.org



A MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY

As you may imagine, I have a lot of conversations with people, both inside and outside our organization. One common question that seems to always come up is, "How is the Y doing?" It is clear our community values the Whatcom Family Y, its positive impact, and deeply cares about its health. ++

I am happy to tell you that 2023 was a historic year for the Whatcom Family Y as we continued to work to address the pressing needs of our community. ++

In the past 24 months, we have expanded our Early Learning Program by over 55% by adding an additional location (Heart House), moving into a new, expanded facility (Barkley), and moving the Downtown Early Learning Center into another new, expanded facility (Millworks). In all, we will have added approximately 90 new childcare slots to help address the childcare shortage in our community-- in just over two years.

We continue to help youth develop to their full potential through our School Age After School Program (BASE). We are now serving more than 550 children through expanding access to county locations (Lynden, Mt Baker, Kendall, Ferndale) and increasing the number of licensed slots available at existing locations. In addition, our Summer Day Camp team served the most children in licensed care ever.

To help address the growing problem of food insecurity, our Food Delivery Program delivered over 3000 boxes of food to people and families in need across our community.

In all, the Y provided over \$400,000 in financial assistance, made possible through the generosity of our supporters, to ensure income is never a barrier to participating in the Y's live changing programs.

The one thing I hear most often is, "Our community would not be the same with the Y". Our success in 2023 would not have been possible without the work of our incredible staff, volunteers and supporters. We are humbled and truly thankful for your support. Thank you for believing in the work of the YMCA.



BILL ZIELS

Bill Ziels

OUR MISSION

The WHATCOM FAMILY YMCA is an association of individuals with shared values which enhance the community with programs for the spirit, mind, and body.

EXTENT OF OUR REACH IN 2023

We are thrilled to share the remarkable impact our programs have had in the past year. Our dedicated team, generous donors, and resilient communities have come together to make a significant difference in the lives of many. Here are some highlights of our accomplishments:



Empowering Education
Through Scholarships

\$80,570 in Early Learning Scholarships were awarded.

Fostering Teen Growth
and Development

Over \$30,000 was allocated to support free teen programs.

Membership Scholarships

We awarded \$150,000 in scholarships to subsidize the cost of Y memberships.

General Membership

Our membership surpassed 10,600 individuals.

Summer Camp Highlights

Supported 400 children in summer camps with \$13,000+ in scholarships.

Building Strong Foundations

Invested \$26,568 in youth success through Before and After School Enrichment programs.

HEALTHY LIVING



In 2023, we granted \$13,502 in Healthy Living Scholarships.



In 2023 we saw over 800 seniors participated in our active older adult classes.



\$30,000 went to support cancer survivors in our LiveStrong program



PEDALING FOR PARKINSON'S

The Whatcom Family YMCA hosts two programs designed to ease the symptoms associated with Parkinson's - Pedaling for Parkinson's and Rock Steady Boxing. Not only do these programs help the participants with their physical well-being, they also give them an important sense of community that enables them to see that they are not alone in their diagnosis.

Beginning in 2014, the YMCA has helped people with Parkinson's to relieve their symptoms by pedaling at a high cadence of

80-90 revolutions per minute. Although this program is not a cure, research from the Cleveland Clinic has shown that cycling at a rapid pace can reduce the neurological symptoms associated with the disease by an astonishing 35%. During class the bicycles are arranged in a large circle and group members cycle together while sharing stories and supporting one another's triumphs and struggles.



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



\$48,000

GIVEN IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO HELP SUPPORT GROWTH AND LEARNING IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT.



2,258 children in Whatcom County honed their skills while participating in YMCA Youth Sports in 2023 – swinging bats, making baskets and kicking goals under the tutelage of 111 volunteers like Coach Taylor. Ranging in age from tiny 3 year-olds to long-legged preteens, the young athletes learned basic skills and engaged in friendly competition with a focus on sportsmanship. To create a fair playing field that ALL families have access to, the Whatcom

Family Y gave \$3,623 in scholarships to Youth Sports participants.

Amanda is both a volunteer coach and parent, “Both of my boys (now five and eight) have been in YMCA childcare since they were babies. I have LOVED the opportunity to let them try sports through the various clinics and leagues. It has been a great low commitment/low cost way to see what my kids enjoy.”



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



"I'm fortunate that an essential part of my job at the Whatcom Family YMCA) is to deliver food for the Bellingham Food Bank each week. I get to see firsthand the impact our efforts make in the lives of the recipients. The thanks and appreciation we get each week brightens my own life and inspires me to try to do more in my community and with the Y. Many thanks to our donors for making this possible!"

— Dan McNabb, Membership Lead

The Y delivered **3000+** boxes of food throughout Whatcom County

Since 2020 we have delivered over **150,000** pounds of food



457 Volunteers dedicated over **5,761** hours of their time to support Y programming and events.





**300 KIDS PRACTICED
THEIR CLIMBING
SKILLS THROUGHOUT
2023.**

**50 PEOPLE APPLIED
TO BECOME
CERTIFIED BELAYERS.**

ROCK WALL VOLUNTEERS SHINE

At the heart of the Whatcom Family Y, our climbing wall stands not just as a physical structure, but as a towering testament to community spirit and collaboration. Surpassing REI's Pinnacle Climbing Wall in Seattle, it is the tallest climbing wall in the Northwest at 66 feet and the only top-rope wall in Whatcom County aside from WWU. This facility has drawn in an average of 200 participants weekly, eager to conquer its heights and explore their potential.

Yet, the true essence of this facility's success lies in the generous contributions of our community volunteers. With over 30

individuals offering upwards of 700 hours of their time, they share the focus area social responsibility. Their dedication ensures the climbing wall is more than just a place for physical challenge; it's a venue where the principles of teamwork, support, and respect are actively cultivated.

Through this collective volunteer effort, the rock wall at the Y exemplifies our commitment to fostering a supportive, engaged community. It stands as a powerful reminder of what we can achieve together.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

2023 DONOR RECOGNITION

The previous year stood as a powerful affirmation of resilience and the expansion of our community, thanks entirely to the kindness of our benefactors. United, we've created a significant and enduring effect!

NEW HORIZONS **\$25,000+**

Medina Foundation
United Way of Whatcom County

VISIONARY **\$10,000-\$24,999**

Jerry H Walton Foundation
Mary Ellen Copner
Whatcom Community Foundation

CHAMPION **\$5,000-\$9,999**

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AMBASSADOR **\$2,500-\$4,999**

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Whatcom Educational Credit Union
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INNOVATOR **\$1,000-2,499**

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PARTNER **\$500-\$999**

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Beth Anderson
Katie Anderson

The secret to change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” – Socrates

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2023 DONOR RECOGNITION CONTINUED

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Nora Wolfe
Douglas Wood
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While we're grateful for all contributions, space constraints limit us to listing donors of \$50 or more.

2023 Campaign Highlights

EMPOWERING FUTURES

We provided \$408,000 in scholarships supporting families who need it most. These funds also ensure that our mission based programs can thrive.

COMMUNITY FOCUSED

We served 1400+ families throughout Whatcom County in 2023.



2023 OPERATING FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenues

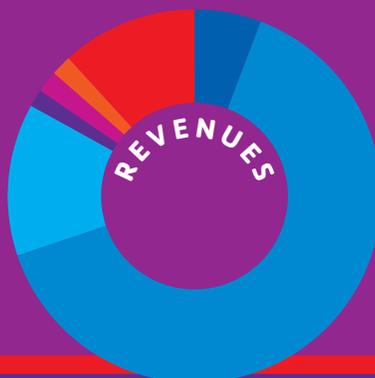
Charitable Revenue	\$ 538,568
Membership & Programs	\$ 5,973,841
Government Contracts	\$ 1,231,664
Interest Income	\$ 141,594
Other Income	\$ 175,960
Gain on Endowment	\$ 166,699
Special Capital Grant (Barkley ELC)	\$ 1,096,926

Total Revenue \$9,325,252

Expenses

Payroll	\$5,975,8164
Facility	\$ 79,043
Program/Operating	\$ 1,232,634
Scholarships/Subsidies	\$ 378,996
Depreciation	\$ 306,108

Total Expenses \$8,372,596



LEGEND

- Charitable Revenue
- Membership & Programs
- Government Contracts
- Interest Income
- Other Income
- Gain on Endowment
- Special Capital Grant



LEGEND

- Payroll Expenses
- Facility Expenses
- Program/Operating
- Scholarships/Subsidies
- Depreciation



WHATCOM FAMILY YMCA
1256 N STATE ST
BELLINGHAM WA 98273



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

The WHATCOMFAMILY YMCA is an association of individuals with shared values which enhance the community with programs for the spirit, mind & body.

OUR CAUSE

At the Y, strengthening the foundations of 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 & thrive.

Our Core Values

HONESTY | CARING
RESPECT | RESPONSIBILITY

AREAS OF IMPACT

Youth Development

We believe that all kids deserve the opportunity to discover who they are & what they can achieve.

Healthy Living

We believe we have a responsibility to make a positive & measurable impact on the community's health.

Social Responsibility

We believe communities are strongest when all people have the opportunity to participate, connect & thrive.



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