

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

CAMPAIGN UPDATE

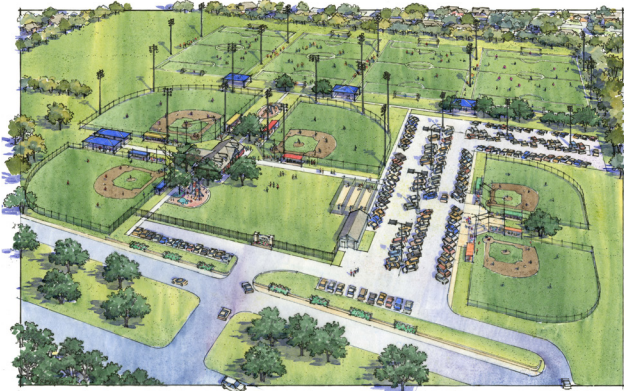


FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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A CAMPAIGN UPDATE FOR CAPITAL DONORS & CLOSE FRIENDS OF THE YMCA — JUNE 2016

SPORTS COMPLEX



In a culture where childhood obesity is on the rise and technology has drawn us in front of its screens, our need to be outdoors with our family is increasing rapidly. When you talk to men who competed in athletics at the Blue Raider Sports Complex, they light up. The descriptions of years past are robust and filled with emotion.

The Blue Raider Athletics was at their peak in Southwest Fort Worth in the 70's and early 80's. Kids learned the process of trying out for a team. They had the experiences of amazing and marginal coaches and they kept coming back to play the next season. They rode their bikes to practices. The fields gathered a vibrant community of families that watched their children compete. Residents could see the lights from Blue Rader at night from their homes in the surrounding neighborhoods reminding all of the lives that were vibrantly impacted by team sports and family.

The Blue Raider Fields fell into neglect and disrepair; however through a partnership with the City of Fort Worth and the YMCA those fields are again thriving with youth sports. The fields are revived, upgraded and taken care of. Very few YMCAs in our country, have the community asset of a Sports Complex as we do.

The addition of lights, play structures and shade will help in invigorate the usage of the Sports Complex by 40%. The community legacy of the fields will be expanding its ability to provide all that goes with a team: victories and losses, playing under pressure, overcoming adversity, developing mental focus, toughness, self-esteem while getting the next generation of boys and girls ready for life experience.

CEO CORNER

Happy New Year from the YMCA! As we begin 2016, I am excited to reconnect with each of you. The YMCA had a fantastic 2015 and we are looking forward to continued growth and impact across the many communities we serve.

With the help of numerous volunteers, we continue to make significant progress on our Connecting Communities Capital Campaign. To date, we have secured \$7.5 million, or 71% toward the goal of \$10.6 million.

The three diverse, capital projects, a new Y in southeast Fort Worth, renovations at YMCA Camp Carter and enhancements at YMCA Sports Complex, will allow for expanded programs and greater reach into the community.

The Y received a generous \$1 million challenge gift from the Mabee Foundation, with the only stipulation being that we reach goal by July 15. The next six months will be exciting but will also require the concentrated efforts of many more volunteers and donors in order to meet the challenge and raise the remaining \$3 million.

Through local support, the YMCA's everyday opportunities that empower people and communities to learn, grow, and thrive will be more accessible to those who need it most across our community. Thank you again for supporting the Y and strengthening the community.

President/CEO

PAVILION DEDICATION

The morning of May 19th broke with a driving rainstorm. By 10 am the rain had stopped, yet while YMCA Camp Carter was still soggy we dedicated the Alice & Buddy Puente Pavilion by a crackling fire.

As a child, Buddy went to Camp Carter with his father for a weekend. That weekend has remained a wonderful memory of cherished times with his father. He believes that every child should have the opportunity to experience Camp Carter.

The pavilion dedication was a celebration of the generosity that represents the intrinsic passion of our donors who believe in the work of the Y and the generational impact of their gifts. Alice and Buddy unveiled a plaque with the following "Non nobis solum, sed omnibus. Not for us but for everyone," exemplifying their service hearts.

The pavilion is a 2,400 square foot multi-purpose facility. The day after our dedication it was utilized by our Day Camp City Wide Training for 400 staff members. Other uses will include: family reunions, church picnics, weddings, parties, banquets, year-round outdoor education, arts and crafts as well as field activities during spells of bad weather.



YMCA EARLY LEARNING CENTER



Currently gaps are getting broader in those children who are ready for elementary school and those who are not. Children that experience success in the learning process in early childhood are prepared to navigate the transitions ahead. Our committed teachers, nurturing environment and quality curriculum are establishing a strong foundation and preparedness for our children at our YMCA Early Learning Centers.

The YMCA has three Early Learning Centers; Ella McFadden in the Downtown YMCA, Amaka in the Butler Housing Community, and the McDonald Southeast YMCA. Together, all three schools serve over 190 children daily.

ELLA MCFADDEN EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER

When Tyneque Willams brought her son, Justin, to the Ella McFadden Center over a year ago he could not speak. Today this 3 1/2 year old talks all weekend about his friends who he can't wait to see on Monday morning. "Family" is the word that Shaye Fox, Ella's Director, uses to describe her school.

AMAKA CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Amaka serves infants through pre K. They recently received the Texas Rising Star which is the highest rating a preschool in the State of Texas can receive. This is a huge accomplishment that sets Amaka in the top tier of preschool's statewide. This was accomplished as Mechell Green describes through their team spirit. Her vision for Amaka is that it is a safe, inviting environment that creates school ready students. Amaka serves residents in the Butler Housing Community as well as urban professionals.

McDONALD SOUTHEAST YMCA

McDonald Southeast will also serve infants in our new facility. Tamika Lester faces the challenge of cultivating parent engagement in the southeast community. Tamika desires to build community among the parents. "I want a village: aunts, uncles, moms, dads, all of us to come together to support our kids. My parents work so hard."

The new McDonald Southeast Early Learning Center named after the Morris Foundation will enlarge our capacity to bring more children into school readiness in a demographic that has suffered in the past from delayed learning. The YMCA is broadening our impact to better serve our community thanks to our generous donors.