



The Y for youth

Youth & Teens

91% OF PARENTS

reported having to make significant changes to their work, life or finances in order to afford child care.

26% of juvenile crime happens **AFTER SCHOOL BETWEEN 2-6 PM.**

Child care costs **\$15,000 PER CHILD PER YEAR** amounting to **UP TO 16%** of the median household's income.

At the YMCA, we believe every young person deserves the chance to thrive—socially, emotionally, and academically. In neighborhoods where resources are limited and safe spaces can be hard to find, this work becomes not just impactful—but essential.

We serve more than 20,000 youth and teens annually through sports, childcare, camp, and teen engagement activities - investing over \$10.8M. We're committed to reaching over 9,000 teens in the next three years with initiatives focused on workforce development, violence prevention, and mental well-being.

Youth and Teen programming at Emerson YMCA

Emerson Summer Camp, what a time to be alive! During the summer of 2026 the Emerson Family YMCA was able to serve 101 kids through our summer camp program. Of that number, 16 kids had documented disabilities or Individualized Education Plans. By week 2 of the camp, we had identified 33 campers that needed some type of accommodation on a daily basis. Emerson's staff and counselors were intentional about ensuring that every child regardless of their diagnosis found a friend and had an experience that promoted healthy social and emotional growth as needed. As one of the YMCA's with the lowest pricing for camp in the association, we are adamant about not compromising the quality of the camp. Wanting to make an experience affordable for our community should never have to be paired with less excitement, opportunities, or life changing experiences.



On a weekly basis each child received free swim lessons through our Go for Green Programming. Our girls had a biweekly opportunity to participate in the Techbridge Girls programming facilitated by our Community Development Team. There was also a weekly Mad Scientist Group that provided the campers with a chance to do a plethora of science projects. Some involved creating their own slime, lava lamps, volcanos, and balloon rockets. With each activity being catered for the age group and intellectual abilities of the children in front of them. Even with all the excitement that came with the programs we brought inhouse, the petting zoo seemed to be the experience that took the cake: 2 full hours of horse rides, reptiles, dogs, bunnies, pigs, and turtles. Will you join us in ensuring this is an experience we can continue to provide to any camper that needs it in North County? Every penny makes a difference!

YOU SEE TEENS, WE SEE LEADERS IN THE MAKING.

Annual Campaign Goal: \$89,000

Current Impact:

6,239 children served annually through youth programming.

Current Impact:

\$145,543 in direct financial assistance provided to our community last year.

Opportunity
For All

EMERSON YMCA

Nia Jeffrey

nia.jeffrey@gwrymca.org

314.521.1822

\$250

sends two kids to a week of traditional summer camp.

\$500

sends one child to camp for a full month of outdoor adventure and learning.

\$1,000

sends two kids to a month of transformative summer camp.

Join us as we create
opportunity for all.
Scan to give.

