COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT YMCA

The Y for teens



FEWER THAN 16% of youth in the United States have access leadership development experiences with demonstrable impact by age 25.

Students who are proficient in civics are more likely to believe that it is important to participate in political processes and that **THEY CAN MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES** in their community.

72% OF RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES felt only moderately, slightly, or not at all prepared for next steps after highschool.

At the YMCA, we believe every young person deserves the chance to thrive—socially, emotionally, and academically. Community Development YMCA is working to ensure that all people graduate high school ready for the next step in their lives. Providing teen programs focused on civic engagement and leadership development that support a teen's sense of belonging, persistence, and self efficacy are essential to our work.

We serve more than 1,000 youth and teens annually through literacy, STEAM, youth mental health, and civic engagement/leadership programs– investing over $840,000. We are committed to reaching over 3,500 youth and teens over the next three years with initiatives focused on workforce development, leadership training, and civic engagement in our communities.

Teen programming at
Community Development YMCA



"I am a senior at New Haven High School. I play volleyball for my school and for Crossfire Volleyball Club. One of the things I am most proud of is recently signing with Central Bible University to continue my education and play volleyball.

School has not always been easy for me. I was adopted when I was 21 months old after experiencing neglect early in my life, which affected my development and learning. I am classified as having a language disability, and throughout school I have had to work harder than many of my peers. At my previous school, I was even told that I probably would not make it to college. When I changed schools during my junior year, I decided that I was not going to let someone else's expectations determine my future. Now, I am proud to say that I am proving them wrong.

The YMCA and especially the Junior Leadership program have helped me see myself in a completely different way. The Y has taught me that I am more than a label or a diagnosis. I have strengths, I have weaknesses, and I am capable of overcoming challenges. Junior Leadership has helped me recognize my strengths, work on the areas where I need to grow, and become more confident in myself as a leader.

After high school, I plan to major in Early Education and continue playing volleyball. I also hope to work at the YMCA near my college as a lifeguard and swim instructor. I am thankful for the YMCA and the people who have invested in me. The Y has helped me realize that I have a bright future ahead of me, and I am excited to see where God takes me next."

-Hannah Schneider

$350
sends an 8th grader to represent their community at the Missouri Youth & Government Convention.

$450
provides 2 teens access to a semester-long civics program.

$700
sponsors 2 youth's leadership development journey through the 9 month program.

YOU SEE TEENS, WE SEE LEADERS IN THE MAKING.

Annual Campaign Goal: $58,000

Current Impact:
1,137 served annually through membership and programs.

Opportunity For All

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