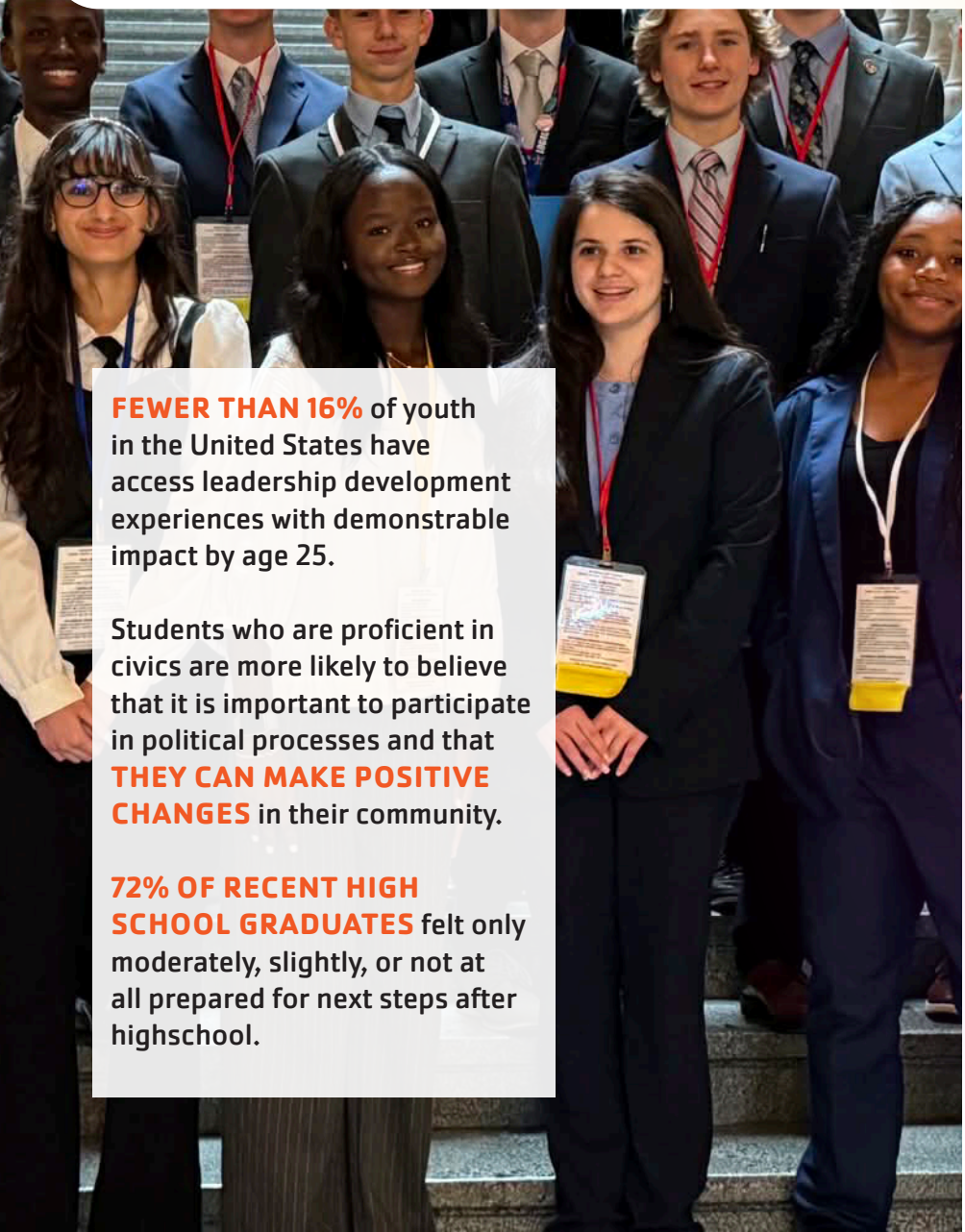
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT YMCA



The Y for teens



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

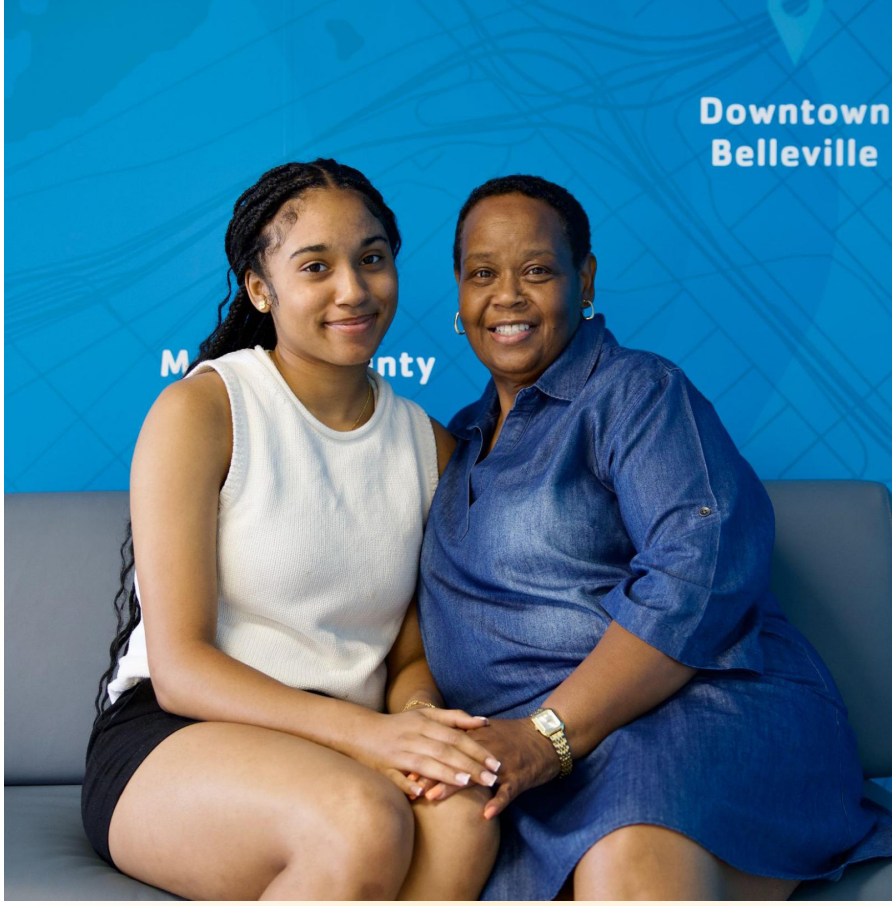
Students who are proficient in civics are more likely to believe that it is important to participate in political processes and that **THEY CAN MAKE POSITIVE CHANGES** in their community.

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



"My journey with the Y started when I was just six months old, when I began learning how to swim. From there, the Y became a huge part of my childhood. I participated in after-school care all the way through eighth grade, spent my summers in the Tri-City YMCA summer camp, and eventually participated in the Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program, where I began learning how to be a leader and role model for younger kids.

When I got to high school, my involvement with the Y continued in a new way through Youth & Government, which gave me the opportunity to explore my interests in government, leadership, media, and advocacy. I've also been involved with Y sports since eighth grade, starting with volleyball and continuing to be part of sports teams throughout high school.

The Y has truly grown with me through every stage of my life. What started with learning how to swim as a baby turned into a childhood full of friendships and experiences, and eventually into opportunities that have helped shape who I am as a leader today. I'm grateful that the Y has always given me a place to learn, grow, and find new ways to serve my community."

-Phoenix Butler

YOU SEE TEENS, WE SEE LEADERS IN THE MAKING.

Annual Campaign Goal: $58,000

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

$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
subsidizes transportation making access to youth leadership development progamming equitable.

Opportunity For All

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