

*Northwest Family YMCA  
2009 Invest in Youth Campaign  
Case Statement for Support*

**Campaign Goal = \$127,000**

*“Never turn away a child from our program because they can’t pay. Often, those are the kids that need us the most, and the number continues to grow.”*

The Northwest Family YMCA is helping to shape the lives of children and families in our community. We have awarded more than 3,000 scholarships to individuals and families in 2008. At the YMCA, 100% of every gift raised goes directly to financial assistance for scholarship programs such as school age child care, summer camp, swim lessons, youth sports and memberships.

**WE BUILD STRONG PEOPLE....**

**Goal = \$56,000**

A family of four thought that it would be good for their children to be on an exercise program and to be active as a family. As time went on, the family of four grew to six, and, as well, received joint custody of her nephews due to the mother’s illness. This mother was unable to care for her children, ages 7 and 9. With the extra financial burden on a one income family, finances were extremely tight. Their income was being spent on living expenses, helping her sister with her medical care, and transportation of four children to two different districts. They had no extras, and the children especially needed a place out of the home that was productive and positive. The YMCA financial assistance program enabled this family to come to the YMCA, to swim, exercise, join programs, have fun and release the stress in their home life.

**This past year, \$186,370 in scholarships provided assistance for annual membership fees to over 758 families who wanted the chance to stay healthy and socially active.**

**WE BUILD SUMMER MEMORIES...**

**Goal=\$30,000**

Summer Day Camp is a great place for a child to be a child. Children from preschool to teens participate in great summer activities such as; arts & crafts, swimming, sports, archery, climbing tower, and more! A very ill grandmother took in her 10 year old grandson who was left at her doorstep. This young boy had been faced with many situations that a child should never be part of. With summer approaching, the grandmother turned to the YMCA summer camp program where her grandson could have the opportunity to grow, meet friends, heal, and be a child again. She is so thankful that the YMCA has given her grandson the positive experience of the YMCA Day Camp, which has left a lasting impact on his life.

**This past year, \$31,921 in camp scholarships provided assistance for our Day Camp program, giving 87 children a chance to experience new “adventures” that they could not ordinarily have afforded.**

**WE BUILD STRONG KIDS...**

**Goal=\$7,000**

This past year a family of five enrolled their son in the school district kindergarten program, but found their child did not adjust well. With two younger children, they were looking for a preschool program before they started kindergarten. The YMCA Y’s Owl Nursery program fit their needs perfectly. With help through the financial assistance program, this family realized the benefits of the YMCA preschool and the advantages it gave their youngest children. They found themselves wishing they had known about this program for their older child. These children grew in the development of basic skills such as reading, writing and socializing in preparation for kindergarten.

**This past year, \$9,190 in scholarships provided assistance to 104 children who participate in preschool programs.**

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The Northwest Family YMCA Youth Sports Program offers basketball, baseball, football, gymnastics and many other opportunities. These programs are designed to develop sport skills and character building to hundreds of children each day. They emphasize being physically fit while having fun.

**This past year, \$7,434 in scholarships provided assistance to 178 children who participated in our youth and teen development programs.**

**WE BUILD STRONG FAMILIES...**

**Goal=\$33,000**

During the difficult times many working parents are struggling financially to pay basic costs of living. The Northwest Family YMCA offers before and after school care to those families that need their children to be in a safe environment with well-trained staff. Parents have no worries knowing that their child is playing in the gym, doing a craft, getting help with homework and learning character development.

An everyday working family is struck with the father becoming disabled from a severely damaged liver. Since the disability began the family has struggled to make ends meet. The children moved from different home care providers because they were not getting the respect that the children needed and not enough activities. A friend told them all about the YMCA and the financial assistance program. The parents were thrilled and looked into it. They enrolled their children with the help of financial assistance. The children are being cared for with respect. They play games, run, laugh and interact with many children of their same ages. The children love it here and are doing great! Having the before and after school program has offered a piece of mind for their father to get the treatment he needed and for mom knowing that her children are safe.

**This past year, \$48,518 in School Age Child Care scholarships was given to provide assistance to over 42 families in our School Age Child Care program.**

**WE BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES....**

**Goal=\$1,000**

For over 2 years, the Northwest Family YMCA has formed a partnership with the Lance Armstrong Foundation. The LIVESTRONG program brings several unique opportunities designed to guide cancer survivors toward regaining control of their health and well being post treatment. Through the financial assistance program we are able to offer a 12 week physical activity program designed for adult cancer survivor's who have recently become de-conditioned or chronically fatigued from their treatment of disease.

**This past year, \$4916, was given in scholarships to provide the LIVESTRONG program at the Northwest Family YMCA, assisting over 17 adults to gain control of their health.**

The YMCA is more than just a building with fitness equipment. We are a family; we take care of our community needs, help children, teens, and adults succeed and develop into our future leaders. We build upon character development ~ the fundamentals to a well-rounded individual ~ CARING, HONESTY, RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY.

*As you can see, the demand for financial assistance far outweighs what we raise here at the Northwest Family YMCA. We hope that you would consider giving to this worthy cause to continue to help us reach the children and families in our community.*