

OUR VOICE



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

GREATER NAPLES YMCA

5450 YMCA ROAD, NAPLES FL 34109

January/February 2020

www.GreaterNaplesYMCA.org

The Greater Naples YMCA Community Newsletter



GREATER NAPLES YMCA LAUNCHES 2020 ANNUAL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN

This month, the Greater Naples YMCA launched its annual fundraising campaign to raise the charitable funds needed to ensure that everyone in Collier County has access to vital community programs and resources that support **youth development, healthy living and social responsibility**. Every day, the Y plays a vital role in supporting various community needs, including **school readiness, water safety & drowning prevention and combating chronic diseases**.

Last year, charitable gifts from YMCA donors made it possible for over 150 children in our early learning program to be on a path for future success in school and in life, for over 9,600 members to achieve health goals through fitness classes and programs, and to provide support for the 1 in 3 working families in our youth development programs receiving financial assistance scholarships.

This year, the Greater Naples YMCA hopes to raise \$300,000 dollars for its Annual Support Campaign. Funds raised will be used to support programs like group fitness classes, Silver Sneakers, Pickleball and provide financial assistance for youth, adults and families to ease the cost of camps, childcare, sports and membership.

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SPECIAL REMINDERS

SCHOOL'S OUT FUN DAYS

Fun Days are a great way for children to explore nature, find new talents, try new activities all while making new friends on their day off from school. To sign up, visit GreaterNaplesYMCA.org/fundays.html

Upcoming dates: January 20, February 17, March 9-16, April 10, 13, June 4, 5

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers needed for 2020 CHUBB Classic at The Classics Country Club at Lely Resort February 13-16. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Christine Donaldson, Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteers@greaternaplesymca.org or call 239.963.3764 to register.

2020 SNEAKER BALL

Make your plans to join us for the 2020 Sneaker Ball and celebrate 53 years of serving our community under the stars! The evening includes: Cocktail reception, dinner by Crave Culinaire, 2 drink tickets, an inspiring mission-based program and live entertainment by local favorites The Ex-Bachelors. Learn more at GreaterNaplesYMCA.org/SneakerBall.html

GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE

Save the date: #GWYLCollier is February 19! You can be part of the celebration by giving to your favorite nonprofit (which we know is us!).

Learn more on how you can support the Y during the special 24 hour giving event at GreaterNaplesYMCA.org/GWYL.html

NAPLES YMCA LEADERSHIP

YMCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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John Brooks, *Finance Chair*

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YMCA ADMINISTRATION

Mark Hanke, *President & CEO*

Heather Perkins, *Chief Operating Officer*

Luis Cid, *Finance Director*

Carly Gibb, *Mission Advancement Director*

Gabriel Londono, *Facilities Director*

Angeliz Ramos, *Youth Development Director*

Fredo Ramos, *Membership Director*

Joanna Rivera, *Human Resources*

Katie Scarantino, *Early Education Director*

Danny Soto, *Marketing Director*

Richard Tamer, *Sports Director*

Jeremiah Villasante, *Aquatics Coordinator*

After 53 years of serving Collier County, the Y understands what our community needs to be its best. Working with generous donors like you, the Y provides everyone the opportunity to be healthy and thrive, to connect with others, and contribute to a better community. Everything the Y does is in service of making us – as individuals and a community – better.

Together, with your support, we can make sure **EVERYONE** in Collier County has a chance to belong and participate at the Y. Your gift will allow us to reach out and serve more youth, more adults, more families and with more impact. To learn more about how you can support the Y's cause, contact Carly Gibb at cgibb@greaternaplesymca.org or call 239.963.3771.

» HOW TO GIVE

1. Mail a check: Mail to Greater Naples YMCA, 5450 YMCA Road, Naples, FL 34109. Checks made out to: Greater Naples YMCA.

2. Donate online: Visit www.greaternaplesymca.org/give.html, click "Donate Today" and donate.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE Y ON #GIVINGTUESDAY

This year, the YMCA proudly participated in #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities and organizations to encourage philanthropy and celebrate generosity worldwide. We're thrilled to share that you helped us raise over \$6,000 during this day of giving!

Your gift has the power to heal and strengthen our community. From helping a cancer survivor find their way back to normality, to helping a family receive financial assistance with childcare, to teaching a second grader how to swim and prevent drowning.

Thank you. We couldn't do it without you!



YMCA GIVING TREE BRINGS HOLIDAY CHEER TO Y FAMILIES

The Y continued its favorite annual tradition, the Giving Tree. This year, we received applications from 35 families that totaled in over 200 gift requests, most of which included basic needs like clothes and shoes.

Thanks to hundreds of generous donors in our community, the Giving Tree was again successful in making the holidays brighter for the kids, teens and families who participated in this year's program. In addition to donations from Y members, volunteers and Y staff, community organizations stepped up to help the giving tree families. Those organizations included Compass Church, who donated Publix gift cards to all 35 families. Other partners included Laces of Love, who provided shoes for all the families, and Bike for Tykes donated over 10 bikes. Thank you to all who supported the giving tree this year.



John Seacrest, Compass Church

» Giving Tree Testimonial

"As I sit here in my car outside of the Y I can't help but tear up. My Christmas tree at home has absolutely NO gifts under it. I don't get paid until December 26th and I was trying to figure out how I was going to buy my daughter a Christmas gift before then. She's literally such a perfect and well behaved little girl. When I walked into the Y this morning, I didn't know what to expect. As I peak through the gifts to make sure it fits in my trunk, I start to cry. My daughter literally received everything and more that she asked for Christmas. I know Christmas isn't just about to the gifts. But you all have helped a little girl have the Christmas of her dreams.

Thank you so much!!! You truly helped save Christmas, you truly did. God Bless you all for everything that you do! I will be forever grateful for the Y and its very generous donors whom helped save my daughter's Christmas this year." – Giving Tree recipient



THANK YOU ALLEGRA!

This year, we were selected as an Allegra Naples's Footprint Fund recipient. The fund is designed to help local nonprofits with up to \$1,000 in print, marketing and mail services. Thank you Paul Kessler and the team at Allegra for supporting the Y and the community we love!



LUCKY'S BAGS FOR CHANGE

We've been chosen by Lucky's Market to be one of their Bags for Change partners! Now through February 1st, bring in your reusable bags when you shop with them, and they'll give you a wooden dime for each bag you bring in that you can donate to the Y. At the end of the quarter, Lucky's will double the amount raised. Show your support for us by shopping at Lucky's Market!



Thank you! to our Sneaker Ball sponsors for your commitment and partnership in strengthening our community.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



SNEAKER BALL SPONSORS



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SNEAKER BALL SET FOR FEBRUARY 22, 2020

The Greater Naples YMCA invites the community to take part in the 2020 Sneaker Ball, Saturday, February 22, from 7-10 pm at the Greater Naples YMCA. Since its inception, the Y's signature fundraising event raises money to benefit families within our community. During the evening, the Y celebrates charitable giving at the YMCA by showcasing its impact throughout the community and their generous donors who make their mission come to life each and every day.

The evening features a cocktail reception, dinner by Crave Culinaire, an inspiring mission-based program and live entertainment by local favorite The Ex-Bachelors. Dress for the evening is cocktail attire. Guests are also encouraged to don their favorite sneakers and decorate them if they want the chance to win the Best Sneakers prize.

Tickets for the Sneaker Ball may be purchased for \$150 per person or \$1,100 for a table of 8 by calling 239.963.3771. Tickets may also be purchased by going online to www.greaternaplesymca.org/sneakerball.

»Sponsor Sneaker Ball!

This event is made possible through the generosity and support of our sponsors.

This year's Sneaker Ball is presented by MIDFLORIDA Credit Union. Additional sponsors helping make this event possible include: The Vanderbilt Beach Resort, The Turtle Club, Life in Naples, Ciccarelli Advisory Services, Woods, Weidenmiller, Michetti & Rudnick, Brown & Brown Insurance, The Henning Group, John & Bunny Brooks, Tim Moore Painting, Southwest Construction Services, Inc. and RTE Stucco LLC.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available; for more information please email cjibb@greaternaplesymca.org or call 239.963.3771.



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
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JOIN US FOR SNEAKER BALL!

Make your plans to join us for the
2020 Sneaker Ball!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Rooftop Lounge, Greater Naples YMCA
5450 YMCA Road // Naples // 34109

RSVP BY FEBRUARY 16, 2020
\$150 PER PERSON // \$1,100 PER TABLE

Tickets include: Cocktail reception, dinner by Crave Culinaire,
2 drink tickets, an inspiring mission-based program and live
entertainment by local favorites The Ex-Bachelors.

Attire: Cocktail attire with sneakers!

Event + Tickets + Sponsorship details at
www.greaternaplesymca.org/sneakerball

QUESTIONS?

For tickets, sponsorships or more information,
please contact:

Carly Gibb, Mission Advance Director

P. 239.963.3771

E. cgibb@greaternaplesymca.org



RECIPE OF THE MONTH

STIR FRY FAJITA CHICKEN

It's flavorful, nutritious, and wholesome, incorporating a protein, whole grains, vegetables, and healthy fats.

Ingredients

- 3 cups brown rice, cooked
- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- ½ cup diced onion
- 1 lb cooked chicken strips
- 1 lb squash, diced
- ½ cup red pepper, diced
- 8 oz frozen corn
- 4 oz canned diced green chili pepper
- 4 oz canned diced tomato (w/ juice)
- ½ tsp. black pepper
- ½ tsp cumin
- ½ tsp. garlic powder

Directions

- Prepare rice in advance.
- Add oil to skillet and heat on stovetop. Add onions to skillet and sauté until softened and translucent.
- Add chicken and squash to onions.
- Stir fry mixture until squash is barely tender
- Add red pepper, corn, green chili, tomato, and spices.
- Mix and stir until well combined. Do not boil.
- Reduce heat and let mixture simmer 2-3 additional minutes.
- Don't overcook or the dish will be more like stew.
- Serve each portion over ½ cup rice.

Serves 6



PERSONAL TRAINER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Samantha Huntington



Samantha's passion for fitness started with gymnastics where she successfully competed through school and college across the State and Nationally within England. After college she was appointed head coach for a club outside of London and coached women's artistic gymnastics at a high performance level for a number of years.

In 2013, Samantha relocated to the US from England with her husband and two daughters, and today she continues her career in the group fitness field, which she loves.

Samantha is a certified Group Exercise instructor specializing in classes such as Pilates, Buti Yoga and Barre.



STRONGER TOGETHER

We love playing Pickleball with one of our favorite vets, Floyd Foist. Floyd served in Vietnam from 1968 through 1969 and was part of the "surfer-soldiers", who use to catch waves for much-needed relief from the war.

Ove the summer, Floyd battled throat cancer, making trips back and forth from Naples to Tampa, weeks at a time, for treatment. Through it all, he found time to come to the Y to play Pickleball and spend time with friends. We're happy to say that Floyd is cancer free and getting back to a regular routine. Today, you can find Floyd on the Pickleball courts or on the fitness floor staying strong.

Support the Y
Every time you shop amazon.

Choose the **Naples YMCA** as your charity of choice.

Look for the smile.

amazonsmile



DONATE YOUR BOAT OR CAR TO THE Y!

You can make a difference in your community by donating your used or unwanted boats or vehicles to the Greater Naples YMCA!

Why Donate?

- Avoid the hassle of selling
- 100% tax deductible
- Helps support our mission
- Running or not, we will accept it
- We pick up at your convenience

For more information on boat or car donations, please contact: Carly Gibb, Mission Advancement Director at 239.963.3771 or cgibb@greaternaplesymca.org



GIVE WHERE YOU LIVE COLLIER

The Greater Naples YMCA is a proud partner of Give Where You Live Collier, our region's awesome 24-hour online giving challenge. This exciting event is organized by the Community Foundation of Collier County and is set to launch at noon on February 19. So, mark your calendars now, because we will need your help raise funds during this 24 hours of local giving!

We are asking our members, volunteers, staff and supporters to give whatever they can, because every gift will be multiplied through a matching fund. Your donation will make a difference in the community you call home, whether you are here seasonally or year round. Together we can make this community, somewhere we ALL love to live, for good and forever. To learn more go online to www.greaternaplesymca.org/gwyl.html.



COMMUNITY CORNER

TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE! The Y brings people together and provides a place to give back and support our neighbors. Our community partners are critical to our mission and our cause. Our partners' generosity allows the Y to do so much more.

MEALS OF HOPE MOBILE PANTRY

Meals of Hope and the Y are working together to make it as easy and convenient as possible for struggling families to get the food they need, when and where they need it. The Meals of Hope Mobile Food Pantry distributes healthy and nutritious food, including our packed meals, meat, produce and cereal, to families at the Y every Tuesday from 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

To learn more about this program, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org/mobile-food-pantry.html

POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Join other families from your community in these free, fun and educational parent workshops. Learn new techniques and ideas such as: Nurturing Routines, Effective Communication Skills, and managing your Children's Behaviors without yelling or spanking. Lessen the stress!

Thursday evenings from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. To learn more, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org/parenting-workshops.html

HOME BASE PROGRAM

Our partnership with the Home Base Program and Southwest Florida Warrior Fitness gives post 9/11 military families the use of our facility for up to 6 months while they participate in the program.

To learn more, visit www.greaternaplesymca.org/homebase.html



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GREATER NAPLES YMCA

5450 YMCA Road, Suite 100

Naples, Florida 34109

239.597.3148

GET INVOLVED

JOIN US TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY

GIVE TO HELP ALL THRIVE

Visit www.GreaterNaplesYMCA.org/give.html to support our mission.

VOLUNTEER TO STRENGTHEN YOUR COMMUNITY

Email volunteers@greaternaplesymca.org to learn more about volunteering opportunities.

FOLLOW US

Check **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Instagram** for the latest updates on everything happening at the Naples Y.



WE'RE MOBILE!

Download our **NEW** app today! Our mobile app brings the Greater Naples YMCA right to your fingertips! View Group Ex schedules, stay updated with facility notifications, check-in using your mobile phone and even register for programs right from the palm of your hands!

Search **DAXKO** on Google Play or the App Store.



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US... IS EMPOWERING

GIVE THE GIFT OF BELONGING

When you donate to the Y, you're supporting programs and services that help strengthen your community.

» DONATE FOR A BETTER US.

www.GreaterNaplesYMCA.org

Annual Support Campaign