



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

## WALTON COUNTY YMCA





**BUILDING A BETTER  
COMMUNITY FOR  
WALTON COUNTY**



## A VALUABLE COMMUNITY PARTNER FOR DECADES

At the YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont, special things are happening. We are blessed to be able to create life changing experiences in our community. We have the opportunity to serve our community in extraordinary ways that teach, connect and transform.

We've been a community leader in family programming since 1996. The YMCA is a community marker and gathering place committed to lifting up families, children and our neighbors in ways that inspire a spirit of connectedness and belonging.



## GROWING OUR REACH TO MEET THE NEEDS OF A FLOURISHING COMMUNITY

**Growth trends continue in our service area.**

To meet the needs of a growing and vibrant community, we must continue to increase the quality of our programs, facilities and services to people of all ages, incomes and backgrounds. We also continue to document needs for weight management, chronic disease and rehabilitation support to address urgent community health challenges.



## BUILDING CAPACITY AND CONNECTION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

**Expanding in Walton County will impact our community by:**

- ⇒ Increasing our capacity to teach swim lessons to every child in our area who needs to learn the life-saving skill of swimming.
- ⇒ Providing safety around water to elementary students in Walton County.
- ⇒ Creating a safer and more secure place for childcare, afterschool and summer camp.
- ⇒ Providing summer reading assistance to elementary students participating in summer camp.
- ⇒ Providing a safe place for families year round.
- ⇒ Increasing opportunities to combat obesity, diabetes and other chronic diseases through prevention.



# The Y is Community Centered



For over 20 years, the YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont has been listening and responding to Northeast Georgia communities.

- ⇒ Our food bank provides meals to over 50 families every month.
- ⇒ Our two locations allow us to serve the community in unique ways, from our triathlon at Lake Hartwell to our summer day camp experience allowing all children to utilize our indoor and outdoor pools.
- ⇒ We provide group exercise classes and programs for more than 6,500 people annually.

## The Y Brings People Together

We connect people of all ages and backgrounds to bridge gaps and build community.

- ⇒ YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont is home to over 12,000 members and program participants.
- ⇒ 25% of our members participate in our Financial Assistance to make membership affordable and attainable.
- ⇒ We provide over \$750,000 in scholarships for Y programs and membership each year.



## The Y Nurtures Potential



We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive.

- ⇒ More than 1,000 youth participate annually in programs and initiatives at the YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont.
- ⇒ Over 350 participate in our summer camp and all receive a hot lunch 5 days a week.
- ⇒ Our innovative day camp and sports camp give children and teens a safe place to go during the summer where they can engage with positive role models and explore their potential.



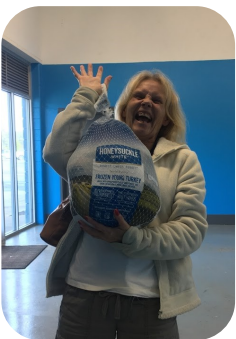
# Changing Lives Near and Far

## HAITIAN SWIM LESSONS

Love Him, Love Them is the name of the Haitian choir that came to Hartwell this summer. We had the pleasure of hosting Naomi Grand'Pierre who is the first Haitian Olympic female swimmer. Naomi conducted a swim clinic with the kids and helped to teach them how to swim along with Meredith, Joe, Angie and Debra. All of these children live in an orphanage in Haiti and were traveling in the United States to raise money for the orphanage.



## Where Cause Meets Community



## FOOD BANK

The staff and volunteers who work with the food bank are dedicated to creating positive results and building relationships. 2017 proved to be a very successful and exciting year for us as we hit record highs in financial savings, the amount (in pounds) of food distributed, the consistencies in attendance and the overall number of people we serve. In 2017, we served 13,346 pounds of food to an average of 52 families per month. The food bank operates out of our field house and is available twice a month.

# Motivating Healthy Living



## Al Stephens

Al suffered a spinal cord stroke in 2016 leaving him unable to walk. Al came to the Y for a new beginning! He began using the indoor pool, the Nu Step machine, the treadmill and weights. All of this was a very slow process, but he made progress. The first time he tried the treadmill, he could only walk 5 minutes. Now he is walking over an hour! Al says "I can feel myself getting stronger and I'm experimenting walking with a cane. I am very thankful to Angie and the rest of the staff. I feel confident that I will continue to improve and will be walking without assistance soon."

# Creating Life Changing Experiences

## Ann & Justanna Smoot

Ann has been taking care of her granddaughter Justanna for several years and life was good, until Ann lost her job and everything fell apart. During this difficult time Ann turned to the YMCA for support. She applied for a scholarship which allowed Justanna to continue coming to the YMCA for afterschool and summer camp. Ann says "I love Justanna with all my heart. She is my everything, and I don't know what I would do without her. I know someday she may not be with me, but as long as I can I want to make her life as happy as I can. I am just a single Nana that wants what is best for my granddaughter, and the YMCA has given me comfort in knowing that Justanna is safe and happy until I can pick her up."



# Transforming Lives Together

## Elie Stewart

Elie came to the Y in 2007 to help with knee pain from arthritis. She participated in water aerobics and loved it! After having two knee replacements, the Y was the only thing that helped her with her recovery. Then in 2013 she had a head on collision with an 18 wheeler. Elie was hospitalized for 14 days and in a nursing home for 6 months. She broke her femur, left knee, tibia and her right ankle was shattered. She was non-weight bearing for 9 months. She came back to the Y as soon as she could. First in a wheelchair, then a walker, then a cane and now she can walk on her own. Elie says "I thank God for the Y! If it was not for the pool, I would not be walking on my own! I am so grateful for the Y!"









**THE Y. FOR A BETTER US.**

**[www.gapiedmontymca.org](http://www.gapiedmontymca.org)**