

OUR CAUSE

Changing More Lives Than Ever Before!



Anthony (Tony) Jimenez has been a Duneland Family Y member for 2 years. "Being a Y member has helped me in so many ways," he said recently. "If it weren't for being a member here, I don't know what my life would be like." At one time, Tony weighed over 460 pounds, and was hospitalized for a myriad of issues related to his weight. Ultimately he lost 125 pounds. He knew he had to find a place and programs to help him maintain his weight, and eventually ended up at the Y. "Luckily, the Y was here to help lift me up, and had the resources to help me stay on track. It's extended my recovery." Another key factor helping to keep him on track with his continuing journey to better health was watching Y member Marguerite Domsic "live so well" until she recently passed away at the age of 103. "She set the standard for me, and I'm forever grateful to have known her. I admire the example she set for all of us here at the Y."

Tony and his wife Margo have lived in Chesterton for 38 years and raised their two sons here. Tony is a retired union machinist. He's also a Veteran of the Viet Nam War, where he gave 2 years in service to his country. In his spare days he's the Quartermaster at the VFW

Post 988 in Valparaiso and is a member of Disabled America Veterans, 3rd Service Office, Marine Corps Leathernecks League at the Valparaiso American Legion. He spends much of his time helping Veterans get the benefits that they haven't filed for through the VA. "So often, our brave soldiers don't get much needed help upon their discharge," Tony said.

"I've suffered from PTSD since serving in Viet Nam, but I didn't apply for benefits at first because the procedure is so daunting. But fortunately my uncle, Carlos Arandula was also a Disabled American Veteran and offered to help me through the process."

Today Tony carries on his uncle's sound advice by helping others and the DAV Post 102 is named after his uncle. Tony is very proud of that. "Helping others has always been important to our family, and I'm so pleased my uncle's good works have been commemorated in this way." Tony loves when people thank him for his service. He suffers from the effects of PTSD, and acknowledges it's a huge problem for our brave service men and women who are exposed to dangerous situations around the world. "When I first started to work out at the Y, I hesitated to join the social programs because of heavy bouts with PTSD. It was difficult to adjust to group settings, but over time it's helped me cope with it better and stay healthier. The Y has been a safe place for me to re-discover how to live a great life. I'm thankful to my Building Fit Friends class friends for embracing the difficulties I was having and making me feel comfortable. Nancy Zlamal, Y Active Older Adult Coordinator holds a special place in my heart. She coordinates all of our social gatherings and fitness classes, and she's so kind and caring." Nancy commented, "Tony brings joy to every class and gathering."



Tony speaking with Marguerite

When asked about his advice for others he said, "Don't stay home alone. Don't worry by yourself. Come to the Y and find something you like to do. There are several fitness classes weekly, field trips, monthly luncheons, games and other activities. We're here waiting to get to know you. The Duneland Y changes lives."

FORCHETTI FAMILY YMCA CENTER FOR EARLY LEARNING

Becoming a State Licensed, Accredited, Level 4 Paths to QUALITY™ Facility

Every child deserves access to high-quality, early learning experiences, before they enter their formal school years. The Duneland Family YMCA is committed to providing that environment for all children in the Duneland community at an affordable price.

The Forchetti Family YMCA Center for Early Learning located at 270 Burdick Road in Chesterton, will be an Indiana State Licensed Center. Indiana State licensing places higher requirements for quality and safety than those expected of unlicensed providers. The Center will be required to meet local zoning requirements, meet required local and state building codes, and pass inspections by the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning and the Division of Fire and Building Safety before it can open its doors to serve the community. The Forchetti Center will exceed Indiana State standards in many capacities, such as curriculum, nutrition, family relationships, and health and safety of our environment.

The Forchetti Center is dedicated to achieving the highest of standards through the State's voluntary rating system, Paths to QUALITY™ and National Accreditation. This process will happen in two phases. The first phase will be achieving a Level Three Paths to QUALITY™ rating. The system is built on four rating levels; each level focuses on a standard for quality and builds on the foundation of the previous one.

- **Level One: Health and safety needs of children met**
- **Level Two: Environment supports children's learning**
- **Level Three: Planned curriculum guides child development and school readiness**

The second phase will be to begin the process to achieve National Accreditation and achieve a Level Four Paths to QUALITY™ rating. National Accreditation is a review process by a nationally recognized agency. The process involves administration, teachers, family participation, classroom observations, documentation that curriculum standards are met, and high expectations for health and safety. Most of these standards will exceed our State's minimum licensing requirements. Meeting these high standards ensures we are well-equipped and providing quality experiences for the children in our care.

None of these achievements will be an easy feat, but the Forchetti Center administration and teachers are dedicated to make them happen for the families and children in our community.

Community tours and updates can be found on the Duneland Y website www.dunelandymca.org, or by contacting Shannon Spratley, Chief Operating Officer at 219-921-0183 or sspratley@dunelandymca.org.

AT THE Y, VOLUNTEERS LEAD THE WAY

The generosity of others is at the core of our existence. It is only through the support of our volunteers and donors that we are able to give back to the communities we serve.

As the leading nonprofit for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Y works side-by-side with our neighbors every day to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. To do our important work, the Y relies on support from members, donors, volunteers, and community leaders. When you are involved with the Y, you help bring about lasting personal and social change.

Whether you want to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve your or your family's health and well-being, or give back and support your neighbors, your involvement with the Y will positively impact those in your community.

Take an active role in bringing about meaningful, enduring change right in your own neighborhood by becoming a volunteer at the Y. With a wide-range of volunteer opportunities, we have a place for anyone looking for volunteer hours, resume building, job experience or simply anyone looking to connect with their community. **For more information about volunteer opportunities, please contact Jane Delligatti at 926-4204 or jdelligatti@dunelandymca.org.**

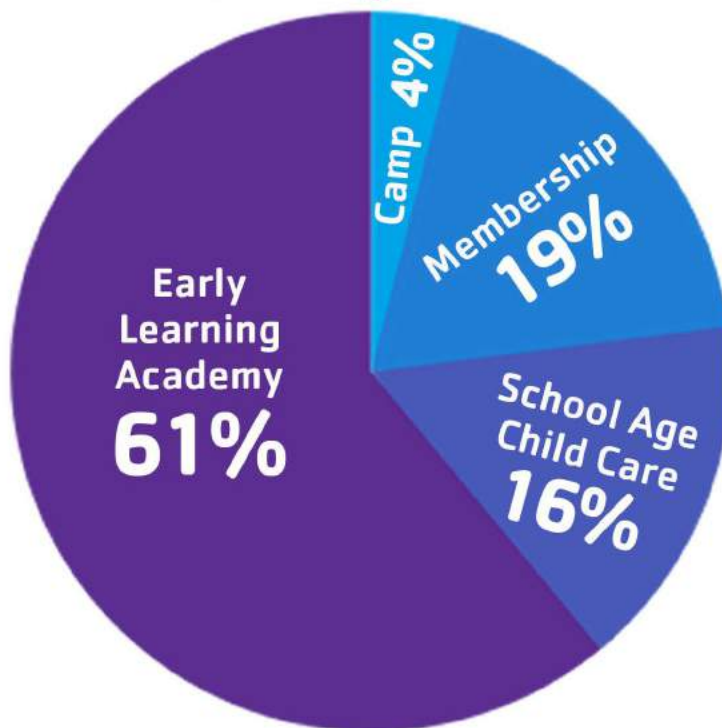


YOUR GENEROSITY HELPING OTHERS

How Your Contributions Were Distributed

2019 ANNUAL SUPPORT CAMPAIGN PROCEEDS

\$98,500



100%

of your contributions were used to fund scholarships.

1 YOUR DOLLAR + **1** MATCHING DOLLAR = **2** DOUBLE THE IMPACT

**CORPORATE
MATCHING GIFTS**

The Duneland YMCA has steadily increased its fundraising revenue over the last 5 years in all categories: grant revenue, our annual fundraising campaign and special events such as our Prom Fashion Show and Dancing Like the Stars. This is a tribute to the hard work of our volunteers, members, staff and the generosity of the Duneland communities. One source of fundraising that has not been historically significant is **corporate matching gifts**, which are a type of philanthropy in which companies financially match donations that their employees make to nonprofit organizations. Some studies have shown that 78% of match-eligible donors have no idea whether their company offers a matching gift program and that 7% of donors at companies with matching gift programs submit a matching gift request. Companies of all sizes match donations their employees make to nonprofits because it's an easy, structured way for them to support good work in their communities. Take the time to **find out if your employer will match charitable donations** and **double your impact** by taking advantage of this when you make a donation to your favorite charities.



DUNELAND FAMILY YMCA
 215 Roosevelt Street
 Chesterton, IN 46304



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2019 CHAIRMAN'S ROUND TABLE

IN MEMORY OF
**ROLAND CLINE &
 HENRY DE WULF**

DUNELAND
 FAMILY YMCA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DUNELAND
 FAMILY YMCA
EMPLOYEES

DUNELAND
 FAMILY YMCA
MEMBERS



**TOM & LU
 ROBERTS**



TROUT FAMILY
 JIM, LINDSAY
 LUKE & LEAH



ANONYMOUS



JASON & KATIE
CLARK

DELLIGATTI
 FAMILY

DELTA
 THETA
 TAU

IN MEMORY OF
**JEAN
 DONNELLY**

DUNELAND
 EXCHANGE
 CLUB



GARDNER
 FAMILY



MIKE & SUE
HARRIS

TIM & KATHY
HARRIS



RYAN & KRISTIN
JACKSON

JOHN & CHRISTY
JARKA



IN MEMORY OF
**JOHN
 KASARDA**

DAN & SHARON
KEILMAN

KROFT
 FAMILY



MUNDELL
 FAMILY



SUZANNE
 RADZIK
 FAMILY



TARNOWSKI
 FAMILY

THIRD COAST
 SPICE CAFE



WATTS
 FAMILY

JON
 WINEY

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? Contact Jane Delligatti, *Our Cause* Publisher at 926-4204 or jdelligatti@dunelandymca.org.
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