FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT COAST YMCA PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER cccymca.org SUMMER 2014

WE'RE OFF TO CAMP!

David Stevenson
President & CEO

Dear Friends:

Known as the "father of YMCA camping", Sumner Dudley was a legendary YMCA volunteer who introduced thousands of boys to the joy of outdoor life. In fact, in 1885 Dudley led one of his first camping trips for boys to Orange Lake near Newburgh, N.Y. Since that time, Ys across the country have welcomed millions of kids and families into day camping and residential camping programs that grow healthy spirits, minds, and bodies.

The Central Connecticut Coast Y has a rich history of quality camping programs that have served kids and families in urban, suburban, and rural surroundings for decades. This summer, more than 4,000 pre-school, elementary, and middle-school age children will participate in a wide variety of values-based day camping programs where they'll learn new skills, develop their minds, and strengthen their bodies. More than fifty-five different camping programs will be offered at fifteen sites in the Greater Bridgeport and New Haven communities. Most importantly, these kids will make new friends and have a blast!

We are also very proud of the outdoor experience offered to kids and families at YMCA Camp Hi-Rock in Mt. Washington, MA. Established in 1947, Camp Hi-Rock welcomes kids ages 7-16 into its residential or "sleep-away" camp and its day camp where they enjoy a wide variety of activities including swimming, hiking, arts & crafts, sports, drama, ropes, boating, waterskiing, and much more. Campers develop independence and are allowed to be themselves in a values-based environment where leadership skills are developed and lifetime friendships are made. Family Camp, held in August and throughout the fall, winter, and spring, provides families with an opportunity to come and enjoy beautiful YMCA Camp Hi-Rock together.

Thank you to all of our generous donors and volunteers for your support and leadership. You're making it possible for thousands of young people and families to reach for and achieve their full potential through YMCA camping programs.

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy summer season!

Dave

While the view of YMCA Camp Hi-Rock is breath-taking, it's the friends made, skills learned, and fun had that create lifetime memories.

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Dan O'Donnell, Chair
Lissette Andino, Vice Chair
Tim Martin, Vice Chair
Preston Tisdale, Vice Chair
Diane Chiota, Secretary
Michael Horton, Asst. Sec.
Christopher Gallo, Treasurer
Jason Corsi, Asst. Treas.
Jon Leckerling, Past Chair
Nicholas Ancel
Charles Andriole
David Bjorklund
Althea Marshall Brooks
Dr. Jenny Carrillo
Larry Ciccarelli
Leo Connors, Jr.
Mario Coppola
Martha Dulla
Dr. Mario Garcia
Stephen Geckeler
William Jennings
Blanca Kazmierczak
Dr. Dorsey Kendrick
Ron Lesko
George Logan
Leonard Lye
Kevin McGrath
Jatin Mehta
Michael Morand
Robert Morton
Dave Pantalone
Marc Romanow
David Stevenson

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Robert Fiscus, Chair
John Crawford, Vice Chair
Jerry Stagg, Secretary
Michael Leone, Treasurer
Sandra Brown
Richard Hoyt
Christopher Gallo
Jeffrey Jones
Robert Lyons
William Maley, Sr.
Ronald Noren
Dan O'Donnell

BRANCH LOCATIONS
Alpha Community Services YMCA
Bridgeport CT
Bridgeport YMCA
Fairfield YMCA
Hamden/North Haven YMCA
Lakewood-Trumbull YMCA
New Haven YMCA Youth Center
Ralphola Taylor Community Center YMCA
Bridgeport CT
Soundview Family YMCA
Branford CT
Stratford YMCA
Valley YMCA
Ansonia CT
Woodruff Family YMCA
Milford CT
YMCA Camp Hi-Rock
Mt. Washington MA
Association Office
New Haven CT

OUR MISSION
To put Judeo-Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

IT'S MORE FUN WITH EVERYONE!

Many people play vital roles in our Annual Campaign. Tim Martin is volunteering as our CCCY Annual Campaign Chair. Tim also serves on the CCCY Corporate Board of Directors. Everyone works hard to help our Y and our community. Through their leadership and hard work, thousands of financially disadvantaged children and families benefit - given new opportunities to grow in spirit, mind, and body.

In 2014, our team of volunteer campaigners has grown remarkably. We have more people than ever before inspired and working on our Annual Campaign.

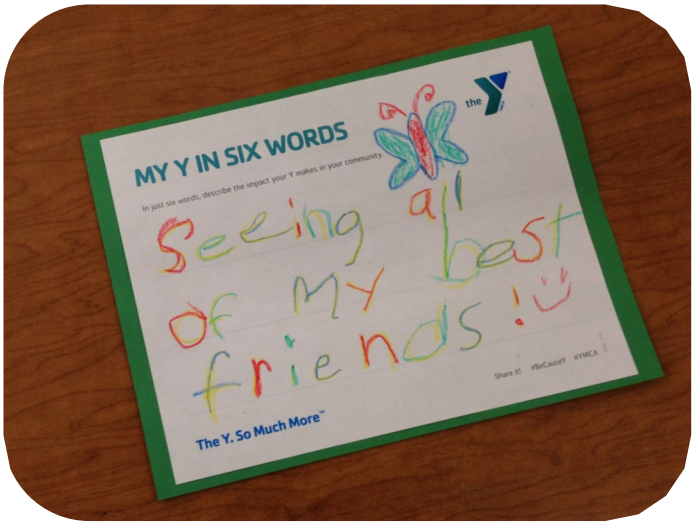
The Soundview Family YMCA Board and Management Team knew the only way to transition their campaign was to spread their passion and commitment to more individuals; basically, to recruit and inspire more people to have fun and help them 'do their jobs'.

Teams were assigned, with a volunteer Team Captain and a Staff Liaison who then recruited ten volunteers. To make the team, you had to be willing to enjoy yourself, give a gift, get gifts and commit be done by May.

Spring training began with an hour long meeting to teach everyone about our case for support, how to ask, lots of fellowship, and a wonderful dinner. The night topped off with the sharing of many incredible 'why the Y' stories. The laughs, camaraderie, friendship and inspiration brought emotion and tears to all who attended.

To help meet the goal, a brag wall was created with weekly team progress visibly reported. Team captains monitored results closely. The friendly competition ensued, more Y stories were told. Team captains motivated their teams with words (and emails) of encouragement. Staff Members, Board Members and over 75 Soundview Family Y volunteers were having a blast!

The result, $54,285.00 of the Soundview Family Y Annual Campaign Community goal was reached! The campaign volunteers made friendships that will last a lifetime. Many in the community will have the opportunity to enjoy the Y.



Give us a call if you'd like to be an Annual Campaign Volunteer or to give a gift:
http://www.cccymca.org/make-a-difference/give/
The Y. So Much More

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

RECORD BREAKING HEALTHY KIDS DAY

Over 2,600 children attended one of our eleven Healthy Kids Day events on April 26th to kick-start physical activity and summer learning. Each program focused on health and education with a lot of family fun activities and vendors. The dance and singing contests were very popular as well as every hands-on program, which proves learning is FUN!

KEEPING HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH ENGAGED & SAFE

The Ralphola Taylor Community Center YMCA is in the heart of the east end of Bridgeport CT offering programs aimed at improving the quality of life and economic self-sufficiency of low-income children and their parents. Their flagship program at the Harding Resource Center is a collaborative partnership between the Y, Warren Harding High School and the City of Bridgeport Board of Education. The program is specifically designed to offer quality, educational and interactive support programs and clubs for the Warren Harding High School student body. The goal is to help every student create a foundation while embarking on a journey of opportunities, find answers and to have fun learning. Through the academic year, the program supported students by enhancing services for student success through academic excellence resulting in the completion of their academic career. Clubs, such as SAT prep, are held seasonally; clubs like the Hip-Hop Dance Team and Young Women's Society are yearlong.

Hip Hop Dance Team Performance

Cooking Matters

Hip Hop Dance

SAT Preparation

Young Women Society

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

MICHAEL LEONE RECEIVES HIGHEST CCC Y VOLUNTEER AWARD

Carmen Colon, Alpha Community Services YMCA Executive Director; Jon Leckerling, CCC Y Immediate Past Board Chairman; Mary Alice Leone; Michael Leone, H. Richard Brew Volunteer Service Award Recipient; Ed Piendl, Alpha Community Services YMCA Board Chair; and David Stevenson, CCC Y President & CEO.

We awarded our 2013 H. Richard Brew Volunteer Service Award to Michael Leone of Stratford, CT for his long time service and commitment to the Y.

The H. Richard Brew Volunteer Service Award was instituted in 2005 as a way to honor the 35 years of volunteer service to the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA provided by H. Richard Brew. While given upon his retirement from the Association Board of Directors, it was intended that his legacy be honored in subsequent years by presenting this award to volunteers who have demonstrated *character, commitment and long-term dedication* to the YMCA.

Michael Leone has volunteered his time, talent and treasures to our Y since 1986. He constantly demonstrates his commitment and passion for the mission of the Y especially to our supportive and affordable housing initiatives.

Leone first joined the Corporate Board of Directors for what was then the Bridgeport Y; later became an At-Large Member of the Board; Assistant Treasurer; Second Vice-President; and later Chair. He was instrumental in the merger between the YMCAs of Greater Bridgeport and Greater New Haven – the birth of the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA. Mike served as Chair of the Shore Area Community Development Corporation Board of Managers and played a key role during the merger with Alpha Home Inc. which is now known as Alpha Community Services YMCA. He has served on the CCC Y Board of Trustees as Treasurer and Investment Committee Chair for many years.

As a recently retired People's Bank Executive Vice President, Mike is currently the Treasurer of the Alpha Community Services Y Board of Managers. With seven children and countless grandchildren, Mike and his wife Mary Alice, are active participants at the ACS Y Walk to End Homelessness and Annual Holiday Appeal.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Our Winter Board Retreat was well attended! The Real-Time Strategic Plan insight and discussion will guide us for years to come.

Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch greeted ACS Y 2014 Walk to End Homelessness participants who pledged over $78,000.

Youth celebrate the grand re-opening of the RTCC Y Basketball Court with the New York Knicks, Chase Bank and The Charles D. Smith Foundation.