

# BUILDING COMMUNITY

A CAMPAIGN TO BUILD A NEW
DOWNTOWN YMCA IN THE HEART OF FLINT

www.FlintYMCA.org/BuildingCommunity/

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In 1879 some interested citizens started Y programs in Flint to serve young men coming from rural Mid-Michigan areas to work in the carriage and later automobile factories in Flint. The Kearsley Street building was opened on December 16, 1913 which began the 100+ year history of continuous YMCA program in the Flint Community. The current Downtown Y was opened on January 21, 1962.

Camp Copneconic was formed when C.S. Mott purchased 185 acres for in 1915 in Fenton. The camp has now grown to over 750 acres including beautiful Lake Copneconic. The camp now serves over 8,000 youth each year through summer camp and year-long outdoor education.

The YMCA of Greater Flint acquired the former Sports Illustrated Court Club on Pierson Road and opened it as a branch on October 24, 1983. Since that time, the building serves a vibrant senior population as well as hosting Camp Boomerang, a summer day camp for local youth. The branch also has extensive green space with a one mile public walking trail, playground, and soccer fields.

The YMCA of Greater Flint continues to build on a strong foundation to constantly increase quality and grow the number of children and families that are able to be served in our communities. During 2022, the Flint YMCA served more than 22,000 people at our branches, camp, and offsite programs, mainly in Genesee and Oakland Counties.

## Drowning is one of the leading causes of accidental death in children under 14.

The Y provides life saving skills by offering swim lessons to all ages and by collaborating with the Flint Community schools to teach all 4th Graders water safety. Last year, 250 students learned to be safer and more confident around water at our Y.

### Today's youth average 6.5 hours in front of screens each day.

We get kids active through basketball camps, winter sports, day and overnight camp, and other enrichment activities where kids and teens learn healthy habits that last a life time.

### 37% of residents in our community live below the poverty level.

We believe access for all, regardless of their ability of pay. Each year we raise over \$450,000 for financial assistance for our youth, family and senior programs. We also offer many of our programs FREE of cost like Safe Places, Power Scholars Academy, Basketball Camp and more.

## Most students lose two months of grade-level math and reading skills in the summer.

YMCA day camps and Power Scholars Academy programs include activities that help prevent summer learning loss, keeping kids active and engaged when school is out. Our camps served over 1,300 students in 2022.

## Seniors need opportunities to stay active and connected, and to promote healthy aging.

The Y truly is for all ages. We offer group exercise classes and cardio equipment designed with the unique needs of seniors in mind.

## INTRODUCING TO NEW DOWNTOW

### **FACILITY FEATURES**

A new YMCA facility will allow us to serve thousands more people of all ages, giving them increased opportunities to grow.

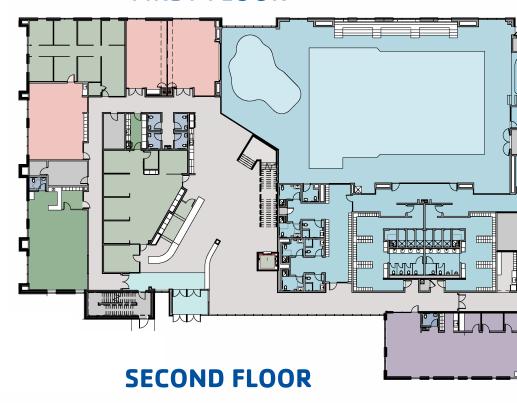
- Increasing services for vulnerable populations including nutrition, evidencebased chronic disease management and prevention programs, and caregiver support
- Expanding the aquatics center to accommodate nearly twice the number of participants, safely
- A full child watch facility to engage and supervise youth while parents use Y services
- Expanded offerings for family recreation
- Additional youth sports programs
- Creating a fully ADA accessible building by intentionally creating spaces for all regardless of ability
- Becoming better stewards of community resources with an environmentally responsible, energy efficient, and sustainable building

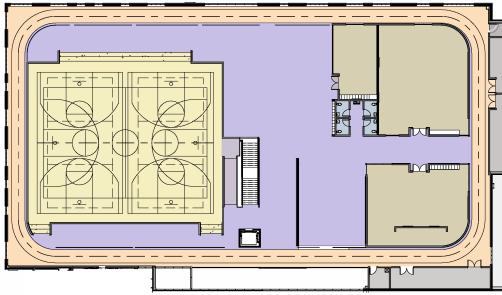


# HE... /N YMCA



### **FIRST FLOOR**





## WHY IT'S NEEDED

The future facility will allow us to strengthen the community and expand our impact in three key areas.

### YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

YMCA youth programs nurture children's development by providing a safe place to learn skills, develop healthy relationships, and build self-reliance.

- More children will experience learning activities and socialization in our new Kid Zone, while giving caregivers an opportunity to focus on their own health and wellness.
- School-age youth will enjoy a variety of enrichment programs at the newly opened Safe Places Afterschool space.

#### **HEALTHY LIVING**

Membership at the Y means far more than joining a gym—it's a movement to improve lives so all people may reach their potential.

- 900 more households will be engaged in our Y with 100% growth in membership within 3 years of opening the new facility.
- Members will have increased privacy and options for families with universal locker rooms and family friendly facilities.
- A fully ADA compliant facility designed to reduce accessibility barriers in the current facility.

### **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

At the Y, we have a commitment to serving those who need our services most.

- Social bonds, which benefit health, longevity, and civilized discourse, will be forged in our new social gathering spaces.
- Community groups and organizations will have a space to meet and hold blood drives, clinics, and learning sessions in our new community room.
- A sustainable facility will allow us to concentrate on offering more financial assistance and other mission-based programs.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Recognizing that we are always stronger when we work together, the new Downtown YMCA will be part of Harrison St Commons, a multiuse building that engages different community based partners to create a campus dedicated to the health and wellness of the Greater Flint Community.

#### **HURLEY MEDICAL CENTER**

We are excited to welcome Hurley Physical Rehabilitation Services as a partner in our new facility. They will be offering similar services as their location in our Pierson Rd Branch. Now, patients will be able to start their care with Hurley and continue their journey to health with the Y.

### **UPTOWN REINVESTMENT CORPORATION**

URC will developing 50 units of affordable living spaces in Harrison Street Commons. These apartments not only address the shortage of affordable housing in Flint, they will put Flint residents close to amenities like the bus station, Flint Farmer's Market and the new YMCA.



