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PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER

YMCA OF METROPOLITAN DALLAS

January, 2017



Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! With the arrival of 2017 there are so many exciting opportunities for us to work together to empower our communities to be active, engaged and healthy.

At the Y, we know a healthy self-esteem can be like a child's armor against negative pressures they face in life. Payton's self-esteem had been dented and damaged by a bully. After attending the Y's Teen Camp, she gained the support of her counselors and she learned how to accept and love who she was. To read more about Payton, visit: <http://bit.ly/PaytonsYStory>



This year's Annual campaign is off to an outstanding start. Our goal for 2017 is to raise \$4.4 million dollars to support children and families in North Texas. To date we have raised \$1,414,950, 32% of our goal. Over the next few weeks our 21 branch campaigns will kick off in their local communities. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of thousands of people helping to create a better community.



John Adams at the Moody Family YMCA

Last month, the Moody Family YMCA honored John Adams and his wife Susie for their donation to the YMCA. Susie & John have been long time community members and we appreciate their generosity in helping make the mission of the YMCA and the Rise School come to life every day for our Y Kids.

We received a grant from the Dallas Bar Foundation for \$8,365, in support of our Youth and Government programs. Funds will provide scholarships for teens to participate in the YG program and for updating digital and video cameras.

As a great way to start the year, we received a grant from the Fluor Foundation for \$10,000, in support of after-school programming through the Annual Campaign. The funds are to be expended on operational and staffing support.

JCPenney hosted a holiday shopping spree for 50 underserved teens last month. Teens from Park South YMCA and McKinney YMCA were each given a \$100 JCPenney gift card to shop for gifts for themselves, friends, or families for the holiday season.



Dallas Cowboys LB Sean Lee with Y Kids at JCPenney

The YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas is pleased to announce that the Baylor Scott & White Medical Center in Frisco has made a \$125,000 contribution to the YMCA Pathways Campaign for the Frisco Family YMCA. This lead gift supports the \$1.5 million Pathway Campaign in Frisco to expand and update the existing YMCA. The project includes adding 5,000 sq. ft. to the current facility that will include a multipurpose room and expanded free weight area, and provide the transition of the gymnasium into a functional fitness training area with an expected completion later this spring.

I hope that 2017 brings you continued opportunities to grow in spirit, mind and body. I wish you and your family, a very happy and healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon Echtenkamp".

Gordon Echtenkamp
President/CEO

