



Dear Friend of the Y,

Right now, more families in Somerville are facing rising costs, increased stress, and limited access to safe, supportive spaces for their children—needs we see every day at the YMCA.

Meet one of our parents in the childcare program. Let's call her Emma to protect her privacy.

Emma is a mother who is pursuing a college degree and who works multiple jobs to provide for her child. For her, having her child attend the YMCA year-round for after school programs, school vacations, and during the summer has been a lifesaver.

Knowing her child is in a safe, nurturing environment outside of school has made it possible for Emma to continue pursuing her education and career goals and will give her and her family a brighter future.

Emma also knows that because of Y's financial assistance, her child has been able to engage in opportunities that would otherwise be out of reach.

Emma, and many others share the same sentiment that echoes across our community: ***Thank you for making the Y possible.***

Across our community, young people are experiencing increased anxiety, social isolation, and challenges with emotional regulation. Our staff are working harder than ever to meet youth where they are—partnering with families and local organizations to provide trauma-informed, holistic care that supports both mental and emotional well-being.

This year alone, we have provided significant financial assistance to families in need but the demand continues to exceed our available resources.

Because of caring supporters like you, we can continue to respond—and do even more.

With your support, the Somerville YMCA can:

- Expand our **School Age Child Care (SACC)** program, providing one-on-one support for youth who need additional emotional and academic guidance
- Increase enrollment in programs like Leaders in Training, ensuring more teens gain leadership skills and a pathway to future success
- Provide scholarships so that more families can access summer programs together
- Strengthen partnerships with local schools and community organizations to deliver coordinated, wraparound support

We've seen firsthand what's possible when families have access to consistent, supportive care. Children grow in confidence, build friendships, and thrive—while parents can pursue opportunities that strengthen their entire family.

Without your support, we will be forced to turn families away. This year alone, we anticipate that dozens of young people could lose access to critical programs without increased support.

Your gift today can make an immediate difference:

- **\$100 provides summer program access for up to four youth**
- **\$250 supports one child with afterschool care for a full session**
- **\$500 helps fund scholarships for five youth to participate in SACC**

Now is the time to act. Gifts received this spring ensure we are fully prepared to meet increased demand for summer and afterschool programming—when families need us most.

Together, we can ensure that every child, family, and neighbor in our community can learn, grow, and thrive.

Thank you for being part of the YMCA family and for believing in what we can accomplish together.

With Gratitude,



Vladimir Benoit, CFRE
President and CEO
Somerville YMCA

P.S. Demand for our youth programs is growing quickly. Your gift today ensures we can expand programs like SACC in time for summer—when families need us most!

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