

MERRIMACK VALLEY YMCA
**A PLACE AND
PURPOSE**



**2021
ANNUAL REPORT**

MESSAGE FROM

The President & CEO and Chief Volunteer Officer

FRIENDS,

The Merrimack Valley YMCA is a place and a purpose. A place that provides holistic health and wellness activities and programs for people of all ages with a purpose of serving those in the community by providing food, shelter, leadership development, and so much more. As a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic, we were shown how resilient our Y is and how we have the ability to hold strong in challenging times thanks to our staff, members, volunteers, and community partners. We are more than just a gym and swim. The Y is committed to long term impact and recognizes the need to continuously adapt its strategies. We have continued to provide critical services that support the health and well-being of the people in our communities.

The Merrimack Valley YMCA had a successful 2021. After a year of limited operations and no camp, in 2021 we were able to open to full capacity, expand teen leadership programs, and serve over 1,575 kids at camp. The pandemic was isolating and the Y was able to bring back the social interaction that we all craved in a safe and welcoming way. This work was possible because of the generosity of the community and the hard work of volunteers and staff. The Merrimack Valley YMCA raised over \$614,000 in our 2021 annual campaign, setting a new record for our association. Fundraising through our special events and grants were also strong. We received a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that provided us with two food trucks to use as mobile food pantries. With these trucks, we are now able to bring food to those beyond the walls of our YMCAs. Finally, in 2021 we completed our strategic plan that will take us through 2024. Included in the plan is our Promise of Inclusion that encapsulates our mission of serving all. The statement that follows is powerful and we strive to live these words in our daily work and lives. The Merrimack Valley YMCA intentionally commits to facilitating positive and lasting change with our communities. We focus on providing an environment that celebrates diversity, advances equity, and reflects inclusion for all, both inside and outside of our walls. We welcome our community to show up authentically, to speak up courageously, and to create a space for all to be, belong, and become.

We will continue to be a place and a purpose for everyone in the Merrimack Valley thanks to you, our members, dedicated volunteers, generous donors, committed staff and supporting partners.



Francis J. Kenneally III,
President & CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'F. J. Kenneally III'.

Peter Lafond
Chair, Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Peter J. Lafond'.

YMCA VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP 2021

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CHAIR: William McCartney • **VICE CHAIR:** Victor J. Mill III

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Jennifer Borislow	Peter Lafond
George Fantini	Michael Mancuso
Marilyn Fitzgerald	Stephen Pytka
Phyllis Hamblet	Joseph Turk

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Ronn Faigen	Mark Kristiansen	Tony Sicurella
Marilyn Fitzgerald	David Louis	Beth Smithson
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Elizabeth Fitzsimons	Scott Simpson
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 Linda Dean Campbell
 Emily Cronin
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MV YMCA LEADERSHIP TEAM

FRANCIS J. KENNEALLY, III President & Chief Executive Officer	JOSEPH AGOSTO Executive Director Lawrence YMCA
CLAUDIA SOO HOD Chief Operations Officer	LENIS PEREZ Associate Executive Director of Youth Development MV YMCA
CATHLEEN LANDRY Chief Financial Officer	CATHERINE REDARD Executive Director of Child Care
MARY JANE DINSMORE Chief Human Resources Officer	RYAN MCVANN Associate Executive Director Methuen YMCA
JANA DINATALE Executive Director Andover/N. Andover YMCA	ANNE WHALEN Executive Director Camping Services
KELLEY O'HARA Associate Executive Director Andover/N. Andover YMCA	

COMMUNITY

PARTNERS 2021

The Merrimack Valley YMCA is proud to partner with our neighbors to work together to strengthen our community. We do this by focusing our efforts on developing youth, improving healthy living for all and fostering social responsibility to create positive and lasting personal and social change — the kind of change that can only come about when we work together to invest in our kids, our health and our neighbors. Thank you to the following donors for their support of the Merrimack Valley YMCA.

YMCA PIONEER (\$10,000+)

Alliance of Massachusetts YMCA
Anthony & Gladys Sakowich
Charitable Foundation
Borislow Insurance Agency, Inc.
Child Care Circuit
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Cornelius A. Wood and Muriel P. Wood
Foundation
Cummings Foundation
DCU Digital Federal Credit Union
Department of Conservation and Recreation
Department of Elementary and
Secondary Education
Don & Lynne Bulens
Enterprise Bank
Essex County Community Foundation
Frank & Amy Kenneally
Granite United Way
Health Resources In Action
Highland Street Foundation
John Kane Jr.
Joy In Childhood Foundation
Lawrence General Hospital
New Balance Athletic Shoe, Inc.
Peter & Sue Boynton
Shawn Logan
The Kristiansen Family
The Stevens Foundations
TJX Foundation, Inc.
Victor J. Mill III
Watts Water Technologies, Inc.
William McCartney & Tish Bachmann
YMCA of the USA

YMCA CHAMPION (\$5,000+)

Anonymous Donor
Bank of New England
Barbara Sager
Brett Dufault
Cafua Management Co, LLC
City of Lawrence
Claudia Soo Hoo & Ben O'Leary
Demoulas/Market Basket
Donna Aldrich
Donna Luisi & John Champagne
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
Exchange Club of Salem NH
Heart and Hands Thrift Shop
Josephine G. Russell Trust
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Key Polymer Holdings
Peter & Elizabeth Tower Foundation
Project Bread
Raytheon
Rogers Family Foundation
System 4 Commercial Cleaning
The Howe Insurance Agency
The JD Fund Inc
Timothy & Patricia MacPhee
USA Swimming Foundation

YMCA PATRON (\$2,500+)

Anne Whalen
Barry Karamourtopoulos Foundation
Cafe Services, Inc.
Cambria Consulting
Catherine McCarthy Memorial Trust Fund
Comcast Business Services
Greater Boston Region
David Dreyfus
Debbie & Greg Schmidt
Donald & Mary Lou Schaalman
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Hiram F. Mills Trust
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Laurence and Patricia Rossi
Louis S. Cox Trust
Michael & Elizabeth Koenig
Michael & Stanice Mancuso
Million Dollar Round Table Foundation
Monogram Loves Kids Foundation
Noble Financial Group
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Pentucket Bank
Peter & Diane Lafond
R.C. Lafond Insurance Agency
Rosalyn K. Wood 2011 Charitable Lead
Annuity Trust, Claire Wilkes
Russell & Judy Sabanek
Sail Point Technologies
Steven & Robyn Seide
Thomas & Julie Childs
Wyley Robinson

COMMUNITY

IMPACT 2021

2021 WAS A YEAR OF NAVIGATING CHANGE

As the Merrimack Valley YMCA continues to be challenged by the ongoing effects of the pandemic, we are proud of our dedicated staff, volunteers, generous donors and partners who have continued to stay with us. We delivered **NEARLY \$4 MILLION** of subsidized services, financial assistance, programs and nutrition support to children, families, adults and seniors in the Merrimack Valley. Our commitment to advancing our cause and community is stronger than ever.

\$2,349,648....Subsidized Child Care
(full day and after-school care)

695,733....Food Insecurity Programs

410,359....Housing Assistance

185,563....Financial Aid

154,989....Outreach Programs

Total **\$3,796,292**



A PLACE AND A PURPOSE



1,575



RESIDENT AND DAY
CAMP PARTICIPANTS



12



BLOOD DRIVES



87,768



MEALS SERVED



264,000

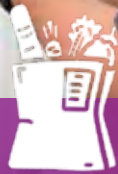


POUNDS OF FOOD

A PLACE AND A PURPOSE



2,436



TOTAL INDIVIDUALS
SERVED AT FOOD PANTRY



12



MOBILE FOOD MARKETS



48



POP THE TRUNK
FOOD DRIVES



558



CHILDREN IN OUR PRESCHOOL,
SCHOOLAGE, AND REMOTE
LEARNING PROGRAMS

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145



POLICY AND PROGRAM
VOLUNTEERS



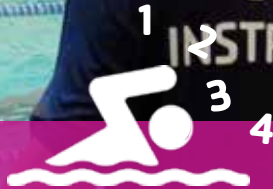
2,301



HOURS OF
VOLUNTEERING



272



FREE SWIM LESSONS
PROVIDED



74



MEN RECEIVING SHELTER &
SUPPORT SERVICES IN OUR SRO

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1,621



LEARNING TO SWIM
AT THE Y



329



TEENS INVOLVED IN
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES



20,566



OF SCANS FOR
SENIORS



1,178,296



MEMBERS VISITS TO
BRANCHES



TOPSoccer

Athletes with intellectual, physical and emotional disabilities had the opportunity to play, build confidence and make friends in TOPSoccer: a modified version of soccer designed especially for them. This program, which is one of several offered as part of the Y's commitment to Diversity, Inclusion and Global Engagement (DIG) is the result of a partnership with Lawrence-based

Beyond Soccer and Volley and the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association. The goal is to serve children and teens who could benefit

from sports, but who may have challenges that prevent them from

participating in traditional town-based or travel soccer programs. TOPSoccer ran for 6 weeks this fall at the Methuen YMCA and will return in the spring of 2022. Players ranged in age from 6 to 22 and were paired with a volunteer "Buddy" for extra support. The result was a program that allowed these athletes to come off of the sidelines and join in the fun while getting some exercise, building social skills and improving self-esteem. As one athlete put it after the opening Jamboree: "That was awesome!"





For Lawrence teens and tweens, the pandemic has posed a special set of challenges. After a year of remote schooling and being kept from gathering and

socializing, it was difficult for many to return to school and get back to “normal” activities. Yo Puedo at the Lawrence YMCA aims to provide teens and tweens with the support they need to navigate this challenging time. Designed for 5th through 9th graders, Yo Puedo provides youth with mentoring, educational

support, opportunities to socialize in a safe environment, activities to promote health and wellness or just a place

to come and get a nutritious meal. Children are referred to the program through a partnership with Lawrence Public Schools and Family Services of the Merrimack Valley. Each child is paired with a high school or college mentor who checks in with them regularly and offers support. The program hosts trips and activities for mentors and mentees and special Friday night events

where the teens can bring a friend, as well opportunities to just hang out and shoot hoops, swim or work on a project together. Yo Puedo means “I can.” With the support of this program, teens and tweens are gaining skills and confidence to believe in themselves.



YO Puedo

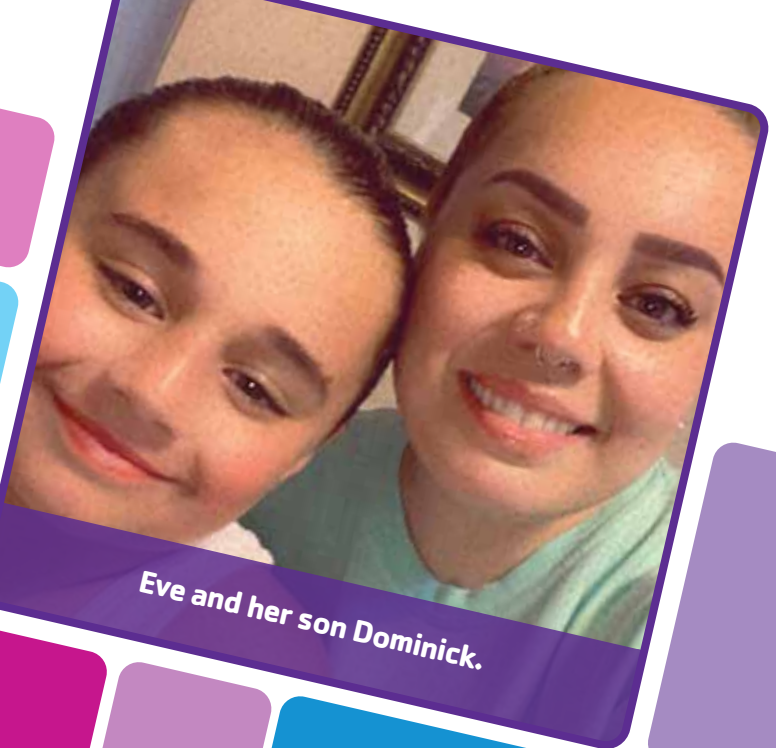


Food Programs

The Merrimack Valley YMCA continues our commitment to fighting food insecurity by looking for new and innovative ways to provide food for those who are struggling to feed themselves and their families. Together with Groundwork Lawrence, we used grant money to purchase food from local restaurants, which have also struggled this year. These prepared meals were provided to the community through the Lawrence YMCA Food Pantry. The program was such a success, we were able to repeat it with help from Groundwork Lawrence, the North Andover Merchants Association, local elected officials and the Town of North Andover – offering prepared meals through the Andover/North Andover YMCA. Throughout the year, the Lawrence YMCA Food Pantry continued to offer grab and go meals daily and bags of groceries weekly to hundreds of members of the community through a partnership with the Merrimack Valley Food Bank. We teamed up with the Greater Boston Food Bank to provide mobile food markets at the Methuen YMCA each month as well. Our childcare programs continue to provide meals and snacks to ensure every child has the nutrition they need to grow and learn. Finally, we secured grant money to purchase a Food Truck, which will enable us to provide food to vulnerable populations who may not be able to get to our branches.



Methuen
Childcare



Eve and her son Dominick.

Eve AND Dominick

The past year and a half have been very challenging. Throughout the pandemic, the struggles that we all face as parents have intensified. **THE YMCA HAS MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE FOR ME AND MY FAMILY.** I was very worried last year when it was time for my 8-year-old son to go back to school. But when I learned that the YMCA would be providing remote learning onsite, I felt a big sense of relief. As a member of the School Age Childcare team at the Methuen YMCA, I felt better knowing he would be with me in a place that is safe and clean. **REMOTE LEARNING WAS NOT EASY FOR MY SON, BUT IN MY OPINION, HAVING HIM HERE AT THE Y, WHERE IT FEELS LIKE HOME, MADE HIS SCHOOL DAYS GO BY FASTER. HE ALSO HAD FUN!**

When I did remote learning
At the YMCA I liked to play
e-sports and zero my teachers
helped me out a lot. With my
math on my breaks my teacher
helped me with reading. It
also got to play Phoddy. The
YMCA made it way better
to do school work and I
felt comfortable.

Dominick, age 8

Letter Written by Dominick, age 8.

Deborah Lebl

ANA
Wellness



The Lebl Family

If you were to ask me to describe myself, I would say I'm a mom and a competitive powerlifter. When I first joined the Andover/North Andover Y several years ago, I was just coming to get some exercise. Personal Trainer Chuck Garlington saw potential in me and encouraged me to try powerlifting. I ended up training for, competing in and **WINNING MY DIVISION** in the **MAINE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS** for the **UNITED STATES POWERLIFTING ASSOCIATION** in **APRIL 2021**.

Powerlifting is focused training and it's very empowering -- especially for women -- because it teaches us how strong we are and that personal dedication and commitment can bring big gains. It trains our minds to do hard things, which can translate into other areas of our lives. I have gone through some tough times in the last couple of years, but lifting and training has helped me keep my focus on my goals. Chuck has become more than just a coach. He is a mentor and a friend. For me and for my family, the Y is an important part of our lives. The staff and members know us. The Y is the centerpiece of the community.



Deborah Lebl holding the Maine State Championship Powerlifting Award, in her division with her MV YMCA Personal Trainer, Chuck Garlington.

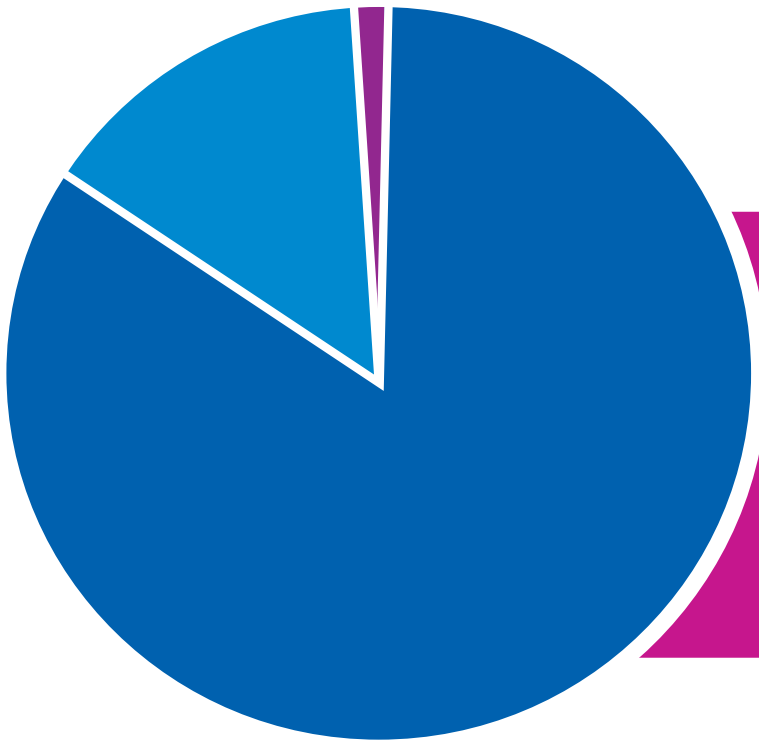
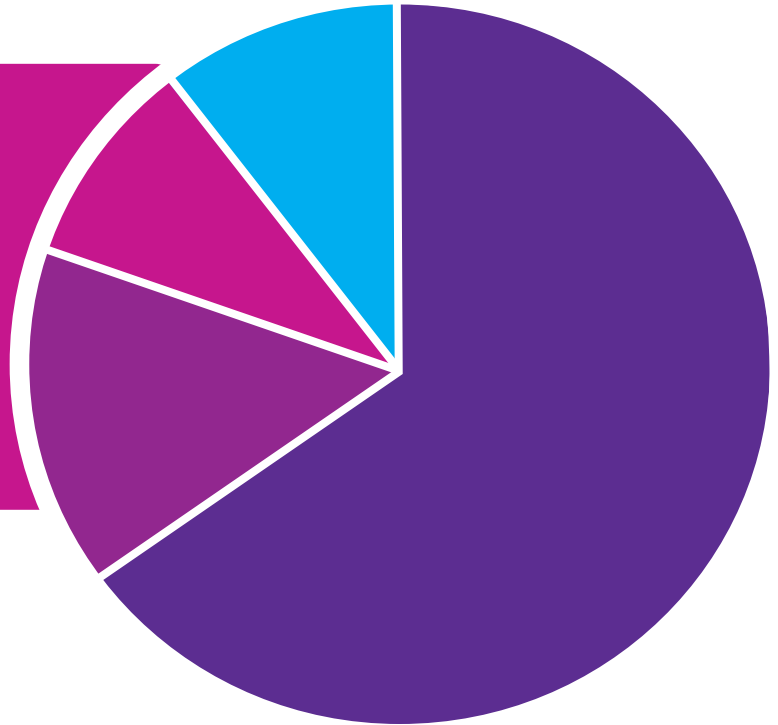
FINANCIAL

OVERVIEW 2021

Merrimack Valley YMCA | Consolidated Financial Statements OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

INCOME

PROGRAMS	\$9,369,413
MEMBERSHIP	2,184,858
CONTRIBUTIONS & SPECIAL EVENTS	1,394,362
GRANTS	1,455,853
PPP FORGIVENESS	1,642,050
TOTAL INCOME*	\$16,046,536



EXPENSES

PROGRAMS & MEMBERSHIP	\$12,058,380
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE	2,188,276
FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT	95,517
TOTAL EXPENSES*	\$14,342,173
NET SURPLUS (FROM OPERATIONS AND NONOPERATING ACTIVITIES)	\$1,704,363

* Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations = 1,704,363

* Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations, excluding non-cash depreciation expense = \$2,771,178

* Surplus/(Deficit) from Nonoperating activities = \$463,871

* Income includes Endowment Contributions and gains/losses on investments (nonoperating activities)

* Expenses represent all cash and non-cash expenses including \$1,530,685 of depreciation



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