



The New Findlay YMCA Facility: A Dream YMCA in the Making

I have been overwhelmed with positive feedback since our announcement about the new Findlay YMCA facility. It has been truly inspiring to see the excitement the community has for this project. I know that there are so many who are eager for all of the specifics of what will be included in the new build. While I'm happy to share what we do know, the details are yet to be determined and rely on external factors, including people like yourself, before they can be defined.

There are essentials that we have already reflected upon to determine the need for the new Early Learning Center. The YMCA is one of only two full-time, subsidized childcare providers for children aged six weeks to school age in Hancock County. Childcare providers in Findlay, including the Y, currently have insufficient capacity to meet the demand of those who need it. The new Early Learning Center will serve 350 children, offering accessible, inclusive learning and play areas, all of which will be connected to the main facility. A safe, enriched environment pays dividends in positive long-term outcomes and future academic and social success for infants and toddlers.

As for the main facility, we currently know that there will be a brand-new aquatics center with two pools, a modernized wellness space with new equipment, a track twice the size of our current track, more gym space, and a spectator viewing area for families to watch their youth sports athletes learn and grow. Before finalizing project specifics and what exactly those spaces will look like and include, we will hear the opinions of our members and our community which will allow us to create a space that truly reflects the character and values of those we serve.

Several individuals have posed the question about if membership costs will rise as a result of this project. The answer to that is that we are not relying on an increase of dues to support these initiatives. The build of the new facility will be financially supported by generous community donors and the increased membership that this project is expected to generate.

In the coming days, the work will begin with the leveling of the existing structures that faithful leaders of the past secured. We appreciate the trust and support that you have shown us and look forward to your help in building a facility that the Findlay YMCA has dreamed of for years and that we promise you will love.

If you are interested in donating to support capital development, please reach out to me personally. For those wishing to provide input on facility amenities, please watch for opportunities to come.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Parsons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Parsons, CEO of the Findlay Family YMCA