



THE CAPITAL COMPASS



Our Season of Gratitude and Giving is Neverending

This winter looks and feels different for us here at the Findlay Family YMCA, and it has a lot to do with what's going on behind our Downtown Branch! Workers are laying the foundation – literally! – for our state-of-the-art Early Learning Center.

When I came to work Monday morning, Dec. 9, I noticed workers digging in the dark. I've seen cement trucks and stone poured. What an honor it is to witness this transformation that will mean so much to the children we serve and to our valuable staff.

Meanwhile, inside our existing facilities, giving has abounded. We made Christmas brighter for several underprivileged children via a giving tree, we decorated and handed out cookies, the directors signed more than 200 cards for staff, and Secret Santa has been busy.

Private giving is prevalent as well.

As a Christian-based organization focused on improved health, wellness, spirituality, and youth development, giving is simply inherent to who we are, individually and collectively.

Will this spirit of giving extend into the new year? I hope so!

We're still working toward reaching our ELC funding goal. We're almost there, and your dollars can make all the difference. Please consider financially supporting our ELC project. You can easily donate using the QR code listed at the bottom right corner of this page.

With great ELC momentum, we'll keep moving forward toward a brighter future. Stay tuned!

Stephanie Parsons



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<https://tinyurl.com/yb9rf8md>





Supporter Spotlight: The Peiffers

It's easy to understand why the YMCA's Early Learning Center received Garry and Kathy Peiffer's support and admiration. As longtime Y members and advocates of community endeavors that focus on health, wellness, and child development, the Y's mission aligns with their values. [graph here.](#)

"I started coming to the Y when our daughter was a baby," Kathy said. Over the years, she has continued to participate in classes. Garry, now retired from Marathon Petroleum Corporation, enjoys regular workouts at the East Branch.

Garry said he remembers when Marathon donated the Lincoln Street building to the Y to establish the Child Development Center. "I got to see the transformation from then to what's happening today, and I'm looking forward to what it will become in the future.

As a board member for the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation, he also "got to see all the requests and all the good things the Y was doing for the community," he said. The ELC "was kind of a natural extension of all that work we had done at the Community Foundation over the years to help childhood development," he continued.

Recognizing the need for a new facility, the Peiffers said they wholeheartedly back the ELC project.

"I was happy that Garry wanted to support it. I saw a need there. I've seen how moms struggle with finding appropriate daycare, and I don't like that the children are in the existing three-level building," she said. "A bigger building with one floor will be great for the community and the kids.

"We're looking forward to this new building and the next new building," Kathy added, referring to the planned Downtown Branch rebuild.

Foundation-building Basics

Ever wondered how buildings are constructed? Here are some of the fundamentals.

(Source: Civil Engineers Forum)

- Plumbing lines are run from the street to the footing and covered with a poured concrete slab.
- Foundation drainage tile is embedded in gravel along the building's foundation.
- The foundation walls are created with poured concrete and supported with appropriate bracings and hardware. An engineer determines the wall's thickness by calculating its height and the load it has to bear.
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- Anchor bolts are installed to secure foundation walls to the foundation. They're embedded in the concrete at predetermined points along the top of the walls. Beam pickets are also embedded in the top of foundation walls, too, to receive, support and hold beams in place.
- A waterproofing sealant is applied to all of the exterior foundation walls that are below-grade.
- A thick concrete slab is poured between the walls, which will help stabilize their bases.
- Once the foundation is completed and the waterproofing seal is dry, backfill is pushed into the trenches around the foundation walls on the exterior to provide stability.

