



Josh the Otter visited our Boca & Boynton Y's Preschool classes to talk about the importance of learning how to swim and water safety. Our Y is thankful for the Rotary Club of Downtown Boca Raton's generous sponsorship and partnership in helping keep children safe in and around the water!



It was a beautiful day for Healthy Kids Day 2023! Over 4,000 people showed up to participate in a variety of family FUN activities! BIG thanks to our Presenting Sponsor, Florida Blue for making this event possible year after year!



It was the perfect day for our 24th Annual Golf Classic, with more than 20 teams enjoying a day of golf at Indian Spring Country Club. A HUGE thank you to our Presenting Sponsor, Plastridge Insurance, for supporting our Y!



Chase's Place kids were so happy to see reveals of their drawings "come to life" with their very own Budsies! Thank you to Boca West Children's Foundation for sponsoring this event at the Boca Y!



!Baila Conmigo fue muy divertido! Our Boca Y hosted a Zumba dance party, live music & DJ, kid's activities, delicious food and more! Thank you to ALL of our sponsors for supporting this annual event!



The Y TIMES

Summer 2023

TOGETHER WE CAN KEEP KIDS SAFE IN AND AROUND WATER



Drowning prevention initiatives hold immense importance in a state like Florida, given its abundant water resources. In order to promote water safety within our community, the Boca and Boynton Ys organized a series of free swim lessons for non-swimming youth during National Water Safety month. Between May 15th and June 2nd, our Ys had the opportunity to provide over 150 free swim lessons to non-swimming youth due to the generosity of the Piedt Family Swim Scholarship and our 2023 Safety Around the Water Sponsor, West Boca Medical Center.

Our YMCA would like to thank ALL of our 2023 partners in Water Safety who are helping our community be safer, in and around the water!

Paul & Kathy Adkins
Boca West Children's Foundation
Chick-fil-A Boca Raton & Delray Beach
Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County

Edward T. Bedford Foundation
Florida State Alliance of YMCAs
Palm Health Foundation
Piedt Family Swim Scholarship
STEP INTO SWIM

USA Swimming Foundation
WaterSmart Palm Beach County
West Boca Medical Center
YMCA of the USA

BIKES FOR YTIKES

Our YMCA's preschool graduation brought an amazing surprise! Thanks to the generous donation from the Boca West Children's Foundation, all of our VPK graduates at the Boca and Boynton Ys received brand new bicycles! The children were absolutely thrilled and eager to learn how to ride their bikes.

The Boca West Children's Foundation is a local not for profit 501(c)3 charitable organization, whose mission is to identify and fund projects in the Boca Raton and Palm Beach County areas to aid at-risk children and their families in need.



YMCA PARTNERS WITH SAFERWATCH TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE



The YMCA of South Palm Beach County has recently partnered with SaferWatch to help keep children and staff safe and informed. This new initiative connects YMCA staff directly to first responders. The advanced mobile application puts real-time communications in the hands of YMCA staff — and provides peace of mind to the parents of the young people attending programs.

"SaferWatch has been responsible for helping prevent multiple incidents across the country, and our partnership with the YMCA of South Palm Beach County is another example of an organization putting our tool in the hands of staff to keep themselves and children safe," said Geno Roefaro, CEO of SaferWatch.

The free SaferWatch application gives anyone the ability to report a critical incident, suspicious activity, or report a crime directly to law enforcement. SaferWatch users can share text, photos and videos with first responders in real-time, and even have the ability to live

stream video using the SaferWatch technology. When an incident is reported on SaferWatch, the report is sent directly to local law enforcement to help ensure an immediate and accurate response.

SaferWatch does not replace 9-1-1 in an emergency, but provides technological capabilities that are not currently possible using a traditional phone call. SaferWatch is available for free on both Apple and Android devices. Learn more at: [SaferWatchApp.com](https://www.saferwatchapp.com).

MEET OUR ADMIN STAFF



Elisabeth Bonne-Annee
Junior Staff Accountant

Education:
Florida Atlantic University

How long have you been working at the Y? I have been working at the Y for 8 years!

What was your career prior to working at the Y? The YMCA was actually my first ever job!

What has been your favorite part about working for the Y and/or why are you passionate about working here? My favorite part has been all of the connections I have been able to make with the kids, the parents and especially the staff! I am passionate about working for the Y because I have seen firsthand how the work that we do positively impacts a family's life.

Who and/or what inspires you? My friends and family inspire me as they always push me to be a better version of myself every day!

STAY SAFE AND ACTIVE WITH ENHANCEFITNESS FALLS PREVENTION

Our Y is excited to continue offering the EnhanceFitness Falls Prevention program, made possible through a three-year federal grant from the Administration of Community Living. In collaboration with the YMCA of the Suncoast, this initiative aims to enhance the well-being and safety of individuals who are at risk of falls.

Led by dedicated and trained professionals, the EnhanceFitness program combines evidence-based exercises, strength training, balance work, and cardiovascular activities. Participants can gain valuable knowledge, build strength, and boost their confidence to maintain an active and independent lifestyle. The program is offered at no cost, and a Y membership is not required.

To enroll in a class or learn more, contact Robin Nierman, Director of Community Health, at rnierman@ymcaspb.org or call 561-300-3227.



IMPACT OVERSEAS FOR BOYNTON Y ATHLETES

In June, our DeVos-Blum Family YMCA was proud to send six young athletes to San Juan, Puerto Rico to participate in a FIBA 3v3 basketball tournament. Led by Y Board Member and Volunteer Coach, Daniel Huck, the primary purpose of the trip was to participate in the tournament, but also to introduce the boys to the beauty of Puerto Rican culture.

The tournament's rules were new to our team, so an instructor from the San Juan YMCA spent time explaining the rules of the game. Everyone was so gracious and helped in every way they could - going above and beyond with their hospitality.

The gym in which the tournament was held did not have air conditioning, which was a wake-up call for our team. It was 90+



degrees outside and it felt like 90 degrees inside. However, this was an important experience and take away for the boys... to learn to appreciate all that they have back home. When all was said and done, they ended up doing very well in the tournament and one team ultimately won 1st place.

While in San Juan, the boys had the opportunity to visit downtown to experience the culture and soak it all in. In addition, the last day of the trip included a local beach clean-up. Our boys put on a pair of gloves and spent an hour picking up trash helping tidy up the area.

This trip to Puerto Rico made a substantial positive impact on the lives of everyone involved. Our Y looks forward to revisiting the island again next year and adding in even more value for our Y athletes and ambassadors to experience.

THANK YOU TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM OUR GRANTS AND SPONSORS*

Boca West Children's Foundation
FL State Alliance of YMCAs
Honda Classic Cares
Lattner Family Foundation

Palm Health Foundation
Publix
Town of Palm Beach United Way
Y USA

*As of July 2023

LEAVING A LEGACY FOR GENERATIONS



Our YMCA of South Palm Beach County's 2023 Heritage Club dinner reception was hosted at the Delray Dunes Golf & Country Club, generously sponsored by Mary Blum. Our Y was proud to present the 5th annual prestigious Peter Blum Legacy award to Kathy and Paul Adkins for their dedication and commitment over the decades to our YMCA.

Members of the Heritage Club give through their estate plans or by making immediate contributions that can generate a life income or special tax benefits. Each year, those individuals who choose to place the YMCA of South Palm Beach County in their wills or estate plans become members of the Heritage Club. If you are interested in learning more about Planned Giving at the Y, please visit: www.ymcaspb.org/plannedgiving

WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



On May 10, 2023 our YMCA of South Palm Beach County held a Triangle Society Reception event to celebrate and thank our generous donors and partners. This event was graciously hosted by Chris Warren, past CVO of the YMCA of South Palm Beach County Board of Trustees, and his partners at Lawless, Edwards & Warren at the beautiful Royal Palm Yacht & Country Club in Boca Raton.

The Triangle Society includes individuals, businesses and community organizations

who have generously donated \$1,200 or more to our Y's Annual Giving Campaign. Donations to our Y enable us to enrich and expand our mission of work and to remain on the cutting edge in meeting human service needs throughout our community.



IMPORTANT DATES

August 18, 2023

Health Speaker Series - Mom/Family Mental Health, sponsored by Memorial Healthcare System, hosted at the Peter Blum Family YMCA.

Register online.

August 21 - 25, 2023

Drowning Doesn't have a Season swim lesson week for ages 3-11 with little to no experience in the water. Sponsored by Piedt Family Scholarship, hosted at Peter Blum Family YMCA.

August 23, 2023



"Getting Lucky in the Park", a Boca Chamber Festival Days event sponsored by Summit Law Group, hosted at Patch Reef Park. 6 - 9 pm. Register online.

September 23 - 24, 2023



4th Annual Shoot for a Change, hosted at the Peter Blum Family YMCA. Register online.

Visit our website for the latest updates on YMCA events and activities: YMCA.SPB.ORG/EVENTS