



BUILDING POSSIBILITIES UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Our YMCA works every day to strengthen communities and ensure everyone reaches their full potential, yet many communities remain underserved. Our mission calls for us to serve all. While we provide financial assistance to those who need it and customized programs for those with special needs, we know we must do more.

A GROWING NEED:

The **widening socio-economic gap** is causing a major disparity in health, wealth, education and quality of life. Children and adults who live in poverty typically have low levels of access to health care services and other social supports which are critical for promoting good health and managing and treating health conditions. Those in low-income households also have less financial resources to draw upon in times of need and crisis. Poverty is associated with lower levels of academic achievement and educational attainment for children. And prolonged stress can negatively effect mental health for all ages.

People with disabilities often experience a wide and varying range of health conditions leading to poorer health and shorter lifespan. In addition, they face additional barriers to participating in health, wellness and recreation, with a lack of available and accessible programs and facilities, stereotyping, and a lack of understanding for how specific populations need support.

OUR APPROACH:

To address the diverse and expanding needs of South Palm Beach County, our YMCA will significantly boost its service capacity by expanding facilities and reallocating space.

The Building Possibilities Campaign will allow us to provide the resources, double the space, and provide more specialized programs to ensure all people in our community benefit.



SUSTAINABLE IMPACT:

We anticipate the following impact over the next five years:



REMOVING FINANCIAL BARRIERS

Ensure everyone knows they are welcome and increase the number of those receiving financial assistance by 50% (serving 7,500). Focus on wellness, chronic illness, and school and career readiness.



INCLUSIVE PROGRAMMING

Significantly enhance our Special Needs capacity and offerings by adding space, special equipment, and an expanded curriculum. Double the space and number of individuals served.

Over the next 30 years, with your ongoing support, we can have a long-term, exponential positive impact on everyone in our community. The enduring impact, particularly for those from underserved families, will be felt the most.



"My job was downsized as a result of the pandemic, so I was able to stay home with Marlee and Alex that summer, but they missed the fun they had at the Y the previous summers. It just wasn't in our family's budget that year. So when I found part-time work the following year, they were excited to go back to the Y, but we were still stretched pretty thin. To keep my job, I needed to find a place for them to go, but was worried about how I could afford it. When I called the Y to ask about options, they reassured me that they had a spot for Marlee and Alex and they could help with a scholarship. They welcomed

us with open arms. My stress vanished. The kids had the best summer and I didn't have to worry while I was at work." – Jenny, mom of Marlee and Alex

Each year, we provide \$1.9 million in financial assistance and program subsidies. The Building Possibilities Campaign will allow us to reach even more families who need us most.