THE Y ON THE WESTSIDE

YMCA OF METRO ATLANTA
WESTSIDE SUMMIT: DECEMBER 7, 2018
WE BELIEVE

all people, especially children, deserve an equal chance to reach their full potential

AND

should prepare themselves to connect to and serve community
**WHAT GUIDES US**

**OUR CORE BELIEFS:**
We believe all people, especially children, deserve an equal chance to reach their full potential and should prepare themselves to connect to and serve community.

**OUR VISION:**
Be the organization recognized for bringing people together to champion communities where everyone belongs.

**OUR APPROACH**

- LEVERAGE Y NETWORK / CAPABILITIES
- FACILITATE AND FORGE ALLIANCES
- DEVELOP AND ENGAGE CIVIC LEADERS
- EXPAND ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY
- ACTIVATE FUN AND WELL-BEING
- MODEL VIBRANT, DIVERSE, INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

**THE GOOD WE SEEK**

- **EMPOWER HEALTHY LIVING**
  People in all life stages and abilities will have the know-how and resources to improve their health, well-being and social connectedness.

- **ENSURE SCHOOL READINESS**
  Preschool children will enter kindergarten on a path to read to learn by the third grade and develop healthy habits.

- **IMPROVE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**
  Elementary-age students will perform at or above grade level in reading and math and make healthy decisions.

- **INSPIRE CIVIC LEADERSHIP**
  People in all life stages, especially teens, will be prepared to express their leadership potential, to serve others, and to engage in civic activities.

**MISSION:** Put Judeo-Christian principles into action that promote healthy spirit, mind and body.
OUR HISTORY: CELEBRATING 160 YEARS

1858
The YMCA is founded in Atlanta, offering prayer meetings and social gatherings for young men, focused on building spirit, mind and body.

1890
The Y offers its first swimming classes.
Today, more than 14,000 kids participate in Y swimming & water safety programs each year in metro Atlanta.

1910
The YMCA Juniors Department is opened, launching our service to kids and teens and our commitment to youth development.
Today, more than 2,500 young people participate in YMCA of Metro Atlanta teen leadership programs.

1925
The Y partners with Atlanta’s newspapers to open The Newsboy’s Club to provide a safe haven from the streets for newspaper boys, who were homeless and abandoned children who sold newspapers to survive.

1968
The Decatur Family Y pioneers youth soccer for YMCAs across the U.S., offering the first youth soccer league in the country.
The Y continues to be a leader in youth sports today, with more than 17,000 metro Atlanta kids participating annually.

1970s
As more women enter the workforce, and families realize a need for safe, reliable, after-school care for their elementary age children, the Y meets the need by providing high-quality after-school programs and informal child care programs. These expanded to early learning centers in 1995.

TODAY
the Y serves more than 250,000 children, adults and families across metro Atlanta by empowering healthy living, ensuring school readiness, improving academic achievement, and inspiring civic leadership.
18 full-service YMCA facilities

Serving more than 250,000 individuals annually

Across 13 counties from Newnan to Lake Burton

More than 8,000 volunteers

38 early learning sites and 10 outreach locations

70 afterschool programs
OUR REACH ON THE WESTSIDE

More than 20 years working in this community

4 branches serving the Westside

6 early learning/Pre-K sites

4 afterschool sites
YMCA LEADERSHIP AND LEARNING CENTER
LEADERSHIP & LEARNING CENTER: Honoring the History

The YMCA will work to ensure that the new facility’s design compliments that of the historic Westside and pays homage to the area’s rich educational heritage, through a designated honoree wall (pictured below) and several named spaces.

Our early learning center will be named the Early Learning Center at E.A. Ware, honoring Atlanta University’s first president, who originated the idea of a university to train educators, and for whom the site’s elementary school was later named.

The outdoor exploration and community space will be named for Bishop Frederick D. Jordan, a former head of the AME Church and a benefactor to Morris Brown College, which converted the E.A. Ware School to one of its campus classrooms.

A gallery space will be created to honor Dr. Ruth Hall Hodges, who was instrumental in bringing arts programming to the Westside.
LEADERSHIP & LEARNING CENTER:
State-of-the-art Programs Serving All

**ARTHUR M. BLANK EARLY LEARNING CENTER**
- Up to 90 neighborhood children
- Y signature programs & customized learning space

**DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS**
- Out-of-school programming for neighborhood youth and teens
- Internships with local schools and universities

**COMMUNITY WELLNESS**
- Wellness Center & Free community wellness programs
- Community Market & Café

**CHICK-FIL-A TRAINING CENTER**
- CDA training & You are the Promise training
- Ongoing trainings for Y staff and partners
- Space for community meetings
EARLY LEARNING @ THE CENTER
THE Y’S EARLY LEARNING REACH

SITES OUTSIDE OF GREATER ATLANTA

- Tender Care Learning Academy
- Morgan County School System- Pre-K
- Barrow County Early Learning
- Elbert County Paul J. Blackwell Early Learning
- Greene County Early Learning
- Morgan County Early Learning
Y SIGNATURE
EARLY LEARNING INITIATIVES

Read Right From The Start:
a professional development program developed with the Atlanta Speech School focused on building skills of early learning teachers and enriching Y early learning programs with research-based training and practice-based coaching

STEAM Early Learning:
Through a customized curriculum and teacher engagement, we will infuse all Y early learning with intentional Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math by 2020.

Start For Life™: a research-based wellness program designed to address the activity levels of preschoolers during planned play time, help develop gross motor skill movements, and teach children to make healthy choices.

Early Learning Readiness: a non-traditional, mobile preschool program that prepares children to start kindergarten with the pre-literacy and numeracy skills they need to succeed.
ARTHUR M. BLANK EARLY LEARNING CENTER

- High-quality early education for up to 90 neighborhood children
- Cutting-edge, child-focused design
- Design emphasizes collaboration, biophilia, re-invention, free space, and progression
DELTA AIR LINES OUTDOOR EXPLORATION AREA
CHILD DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES (CDA) TRAINING

- In partnership with Westside Works, this 30 week course prepares students to work with infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and their families in a variety of settings.
- The course includes instructor-led training, paid on-job-training opportunities, and employment assistance for program graduates.

Without the Y, my entire life circumstances would be different. The CDA program and the Y changed my life tremendously. I am able to do what I love each day—working with children—in an incredible environment for much better pay, and still come home to take care of my children and support them in the ways they deserve. I have found my passion.

Recent CDA graduate & Employee at Y Early Learning Center

You are the Promise – Westside Early Learning Provider Training

- The Y will leverage our experience delivering professional development trainings for our 270+ early learning teachers to increase the quality of services on the Westside.
- Trainings will include everything from safety and compliance to Y signature programs (i.e., Read Right From the Start and STEAM).
- Our goal is to reach 50+ providers in three years. Through grant funding, this program will be offered at no cost.

Working with non-profit partners like GEEARS and United Way, we have created a program—You are the Promise—that emphasizes early learning providers on the Westside as co-developers and highlights the incredible work already being done to bring learning and play to early learners across the Westside.

Y Early Learning Staff
PARTNERSHIPS ON THE WESTSIDE
CENTER ACTIVATION TIMELINE

JANUARY -- MARCH 2018
Complete construction of facility and beginning activation.
Hire high-quality educators for early learning program.
Begin early learning planning for Summer/Fall classes.

APRIL – JUNE 2018
Begin programming at the Center, including training programs and community market utilization.
Broader opening to the public in May.

AUGUST 2018
Early learning classes begin at the Center.
QUESTIONS