LETTER FROM THE CEO

DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

The next time you come to the Y, I encourage you to look around – not at the building, but at the faces that surround you. Among them, you will see the faces of individuals whom you support in our community. You won’t know who they are, or their names, or their stories…but in that lies the beauty. Your support of the Y creates a place where everyone feels welcome, supported and connected – a level playing field that allows everyone to learn, grow and thrive.

Every day at the Y, we are inspired to do ‘good’. We see firsthand how giving back makes a real and lasting impact on individuals, families and the community. Our donors, volunteers and staff are bonded in a shared passion to make a positive difference.

We hope this issue of Transforming Lives will illuminate a few of the many ways your generous support, combined with the support of our corporate partners and volunteers, allows us to continue to transform lives by addressing societal issues through innovative programs and services, expanding the impact of our mission through volunteerism and inspiring future leaders through scholarships.

We are grateful for your support of the Y. You elevate common humanity through opportunity, kindness and respect.

Sincerely,

David M. Carcieri
President/CEO
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

At the heart of a caring community is a sense of belonging and a desire to help others. The Y has always been a catalyst for positive change in communities, bringing people together and giving them opportunities to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others, as well as in their own lives.

IN GOOD COMPANY
Corporate Partners

Inspired by the Y’s mission to strengthen community, our corporate partners have increased contributions to the Y’s cause this year through volunteerism and charitable giving. Together, we are making a powerful difference in the lives of community residents, as well as corporate volunteers, through social good. We are thrilled to have the support of local companies, who work collaboratively with the Y to strengthen the communities in which we live, work and play. Here are just a few examples:

• 25 Deloitte LLP employees volunteered to prepare for summer camp at Somerset Hills YMCA by setting up tents for activities, weeded and mulched the gardens and playground, as well as prepared safety fences, picnic tables and a cooling station.

• 44 employees from The Mentor Network volunteered to prepare Hillsborough YMCA for summer camp by painting the gymnasium, planting flowers in the gardens and mulching the camp site.

• 46 volunteers from Regeneron offered a day of service in support of our veterans and cancer patients – they hosted a Tribute Breakfast in honor of Veterans Day followed by an activity to make lap blankets to comfort our LIVESTRONG® at the YMCA participants following their cancer treatments.

• 15 volunteers from DEPCOM Power provided and served lunch to over 80 clients of SHIP (Samaritan Homeless Interim Program) in Somerville.

• 25 employees of AIG gave their time to serve lunch to clients of SHIP, as well as to organize baby items donated through our Togetherness® drive for clients of the Pregnancy Resource Center. Additionally, AIG held a drive for much needed household items to furnish new apartments at Valley Brook Village for formerly homeless veterans.

• AvidXchange generously made a donation to support Somerville YMCA’s Teen Scene program, and also purchased bean bag chairs, foosball and air hockey games to furnish a safe space for teens to be after school.

• Allergan provided a grant to the Y and Zufall Health to support the Somerville community by launching the Diabetes Prevention Program to improve the health of area residents.

Thanks to the support of our donors and corporate partners, we are able to advance the Y mission and support those in our community most in need.
VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

PAYING IT FORWARD

Dan Payne

With a “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade” philosophy, Somerville YMCA Branch Board member, Dan Payne, was inspired by his Y experience to give back as a volunteer and donor.

“When my daughter’s Kindergarten teacher sent home an assessment showing how well she is doing in school, we weren’t surprised. I say this not only because I am a proud dad, but because we knew that in preschool at the Y she gained the skills she needs to succeed: academic and social, plus swimming and a love for science. But, our family’s relationship with the Y goes deeper than that. Various life events kept my wife and I awake at night wondering how to afford preschool. When medical bills from a chronic, debilitating disease piled up, and when company cuts made us wonder where the next paycheck would come from, we realized we needed help. So, we reached out to the Y and received financial assistance. That experience inspired me to give back to the Y so other families could receive the same blessing. I joined the Branch Board and will lead the branch annual campaign. By raising the needed funds, I hope to pay it forward.”

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

SMART INVESTMENT

Scholarship Awards

With the Y’s focus on youth development, we believe that education and leadership are the foundation for a successful future. Over the past 9 years, we have administered four scholarships to help deserving students and their families achieve their goals. Somerset Hills YMCA awarded the scholarships, this year, to six local students in recognition of their leadership, academic excellence and service to the community. These deserving students exemplify the Y’s core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Please join us in applauding the achievements of the award recipients:

Millicent Fenwick Scholarship
• Bryant Then
• Gabriela Britez

Tannenbaum Family Scholarship
• Jack Werrell

John Fanning Scholarship
• Arianna Minassian

Chairman’s CIT Award
• Nicole Lopez
• Zia Sarkis

Kim Cole, Branch Executive Director at Somerset Hills YMCA with Gabriela Britez and Jack Werrell

Arianna Minassian and Bryant Then

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Mark Your Calendar

JAN. 4
Membership Open House
All Branches

FEB. 5
Annual Meeting and 2020 Annual Campaign Kick Off

APR. 22
Spirit Awards and Annual Campaign Celebration

For more: somersetcountyymca.org/events