

Making a case for the Summit Area YMCA Endowment Campaign.

An endowment provides for the financial stability of the Y; to remain flexible and innovative and responding with timely solutions. It also supplements the funds raised annually in the Strong Kids Campaign.

As the financial assistance and community development needs grow and change, the Strong Kids Campaign is hard pressed to keep up; a strong endowment will help us continue to meet those needs.

Endowment Campaign Chair, Robert Moriarty states,

"I believe everyone should be able to participate in the YMCA. The Y has had an enormous impact on our children and has helped shape them into fine young adults today. The YMCA is about instilling values in children, lifting their self-esteem and changing lives. The Y is a place where kids can be "dropped off" and "lifted up." The need is great and I know together we can make a difference for the future of the community."

In 2008, the SAY provided over \$650,000 in financial assistance and program support to over 600 people, most under the age 18. By contrast, the Y raised less than \$600,000 from all sources. With the recent changes in the economy and continued changes in local demographics, the Y anticipates provided more assistance to more people in the foreseeable future. A robust endowment is crucial to the continued growth and success for the YMCA.

In 2009, - approximately 30% of children attending Y child care and 30 % of children attending summer day camp received financial assistance. Over 700 minority youth benefit from the Summit Youth Center, Achievers, tutoring, SAT Prep and other community development programs.

The Summit Area YMCA is one of the area's largest charities. No one is turned away from life-enhancing YMCA programs because of the inability to pay. If you need financial assistance, ask any Y staff member how to apply.

For additional information about the Endowment, please contact Lucinda Mercer, , Vice President of Financial Development 908-273-4270, ext. 203.