# ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

YMCA of the Rockies puts Christian principles into practice through programs, staff, and facilities in an environment that builds healthy spirit, mind, and body for all.

#### YMCA OF THE ROCKIES

the

Estes Park Center Snow Mountain Ranch Camp Chief Ouray

### MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

## IMPACT SPOTLIGHTS

Dear Members, Guests, and Supporters,

This year marks a milestone for YMCA of the Rockies. As we reflect on generations of families who've made this place home, we're also laying the groundwork for a stronger future.

With Climbing Higher, our \$50 million multi-year, transformational campaign, we're investing in the legacy you helped build—so future guests, campers, and staff can write their own YMCA stories. Guided by our Board of Directors and Rocky Mountain Leadership Council, this effort honors our past and prepares for what's next.

That vision is already coming to life:

- At Estes Park Center, a new Center for Well-Being will offer yoga, mindfulness classes, and massage therapy.
- Snow Mountain Ranch is renovating Gaylord Reservoir to expand water access.
- Camp Chief Ouray's newly funded gear closet ensures all campers can enjoy the outdoors without financial barriers.
- More than 4,200 families were welcomed through donor-funded respite stays.

And this is just the beginning. We look forward to sharing more about Climbing Higher as we continue this journey together.

As you read this report, we hope you'll see how your impact continues to grow, reminding us that the heart of YMCA of the Rockies beats stronger with every generation we touch.

With gratitude,

Julie Watkins President/CEO

Steve Moomau

**Board Chair** 

View our online report with all board, leadership staff and supporter recognition lists at **ymcarockies.org/give/impact.** 

Thank you.



#### A Journey of Growth, From Colorado to Kenya

Staff member, Lindsay Bullock, represented YMCA of the Rockies as part of the U.S. delegation at the World YMCA's Accelerator Summit in Mombasa, Kenya, in October 2024. At the Summit, YMCA leaders from around the world came together to discuss ways to collaborate to advance the priorities of Vision 2030, the collective vision of global YMCAs.

From March through November, Lindsay participated in a global learning exchange. As part of the program, Lindsay completed a project that advanced YMCA of the Rockies' work in equity and global engagement. Lindsay began her journey at YMCA of the Rockies as a seasonal staff member, then became the Membership and Giving Coordinator, and has grown into her new position as the Family Programs Director at Estes Park Center.

OF STAFF IMPROVED THEIR LEADERSHIP SKILLS.\*

2,244 STAFF AND 293 VOLUNTEERS grew through meaningful work experiences.



### **V**YOUTH

#### **Teen Barn Transformation**

This year we dedicated the newly remodeled Teen Barn at the Outpost! This historic and special place, located beside Glacier Creek, has been a cornerstone of memory-making for generations. Now, thanks to generous donors, Ken and Annette Hallock, the enhanced facility allows us to help thousands more students feel welcome and comfortable during our Outdoor Education programs. Day Camp and adventure activities!

**11,688 STUDENTS AND CAMPERS** served through outdoor education, preschool, day camp and overnight camp.

### 70 **OF CAMPER PARENTS SHARED**

THEIR CHILDREN HAVE GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY IN PHYSICAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AS A **RESULT OF CAMP!\*** 

Awarded \$387K in camp, preschool and outdoor education scholarships.



through the donor-funded Gear Closet at Estes Park Center.

Camp has given me self-confidence through the example of supportive adults and knowing there's somewhere I can always be myself!" CAMP CHIEF OURAY CAMPER

**CAMP CHIEF OURAY PARENT** 

Camp Chief Ouray still feels like a classic summer camp while also being inclusive and current."

**Camp Chief Ouray** 

In the summer of 2024, we served **2,587** overnight campers, **524** day campers, and awarded **275** camp scholarships!

### **FAMILIES**

#### **Donor-Sponsored Getaways**

In 2024, YMCA annual fund supporters helped provide donor-sponsored getaways for 4,208 deserving families and individuals!

- 2,356 Teacher Families
- 903 Military Families
- 57 G.R.A.C.E. Families
- 96 Single Parent Families464 Faith Leader Families

\$1.6M

donated to the annual fund to

• 198 Foster Families

Plus 134 stays to school and nonprofit fundraisers.

Having a place to reconnect, heal and create new memories meant more to us than words can express."

MINDARD FAMILY, G.R.A.C.E GUESTS

79%

OF GUESTS DEEPENED THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY DURING THEIR STAY.\*

> 240,000 guests welcomed through conferences, vacations, and youth camps.

> > As a military family, time together is a gift — and YMCA of the Rockies has given us unforgettable moments. Even after my husband's life-altering diagnosis, we were able to spend the holidays there, making precious memories.

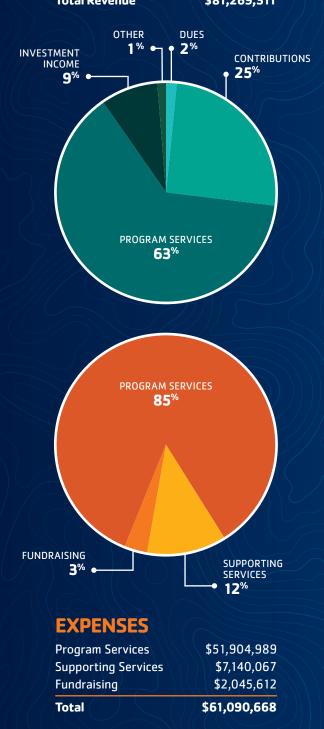
We are so grateful for this blessing and the chance to simply be together."

**PROFFIT FAMILY** MISSION 623 GUESTS

### ▼ 2024 FINANCIALS

#### REVENUES

Total Bevenue	\$ 81 769 311
Other	\$1,034,316
Investment Income	\$6,844,538
Program Services	\$51,492,868
Contributions	\$20,617,293
Membership Dues	\$1,280,296



Representing 1/1/24 through 12/31/24.

See full audited financials and 990 for previous years at: www.ymcarockies.org/about-us/financial-information/

\*Based on YMCA of the Rockies Impact Survey, SBD Social Impact.

### 🔻 GROUPS & EVENTS



#### **FNDcourage Retreats**

After exploring locations across the country, FNDcourage found an ideal home for their Teen and Adult Retreats at YMCA of the Rockies. The partnership has created life-changing experiences for individuals living with Functional Neurological Disorder (FND), offering a safe, welcoming space where participants feel seen, understood and empowered to connect.

Staff member Amanda Hopper described YMCA of the Rockies as "more than a venue—it's a lifeline," highlighting that the flexibility to accommodate dietary needs, opportunities for quiet reflection and space to build meaningful relationships make the YMCA an invaluable partner in delivering transformative retreat experiences.





#### **Summer Music Festival for All**

Estes Park Center was honored to welcome Carl Topilow and the Cleveland Pops Orchestra for a week-long musical festival funded by generous donors with a passion for the arts. The musicians offered performances throughout the week and hosted a children's workshop.

Violinist Mary Beth lons shared, "Music has a magical quality... During our week at the YMCA with Carl and my colleagues, I was transfixed. The beauty of the area, the chapel (that view!), and the deep appreciation from audiences was unmatched."

This special event, returning in 2025, is designed to elevate the arts at the YMCA and is part of the Climbing Higher campaign.



Skiing can be a space for Indigenous people to connect with the land and experience the joy with these elements that have always been a part of our cultures."

#### Snow Mountain Ranch Hosts Skier and Activist, Connor Ryan

In December, Húnkpapha Lakhóta skier and activist Connor Ryan visited Snow Mountain Ranch for a day of connection and learning. Raised on the homelands of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, and Ute Nations, at the foot of the Rockies, Connor draws on traditional Lakota ecological knowledge to deepen our relationship with the land and water we ski on.

Through a film screening, Nordic ski event, and keynote address, Connor inspired reflection on nature, Indigenous wisdom, and our shared commitment to sustainability and cultural understanding. One attendee shared that her son, also a skier and a huge fan of Connor, was thrilled to meet someone he looked up to so much truly an unforgettable moment!

**NORDIC SKIERS** welcomed on 80 km of groomed trails.

The Schlessman Family Foundation and YMCA of the Rockies have been linked for five generations. Throughout the generations we have found respite, renewal, community and adventure and for many the YMCA is a second home. In turn, the family elects to continually support the mission and growth of the YMCA.

The Nordic Center is where many of us put on skis for the first time and our investment in developing a new facility is something we believe will help enhance accessible entry into winter outdoor recreation in Colorado."

LAUREN WATEL SCHLESSMAN FAMILY FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

#### Momentum for a New Nordic Center at Snow Mountain Ranch

We are grateful for a generous lead gift from the Schlessman Family Foundation which will kick off fundraising for a new Nordic Center at Snow Mountain Ranch, one of the largest projects for the Climbing Higher campaign.

The Schlessman Family's support has strengthened our mission through capital projects, scholarships, Camp Chief Ouray, charitable stays and more—helping ensure access and opportunity for all. Their investment in the Nordic Center will create a world-class, inclusive space that will serve skiers of all abilities for years to come.

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### **THANK YOU**

3,400 DONORS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS FOR CONTRIBUTING TO OUR NONPROFIT MISSION TO BUILD A HEALTHY SPIRIT, MIND AND BODY FOR ALL.

## Join our community of supporters, members and volunteers

There are many ways to help advance YMCA of the Rockies' mission and create lasting impact for future generations. Explore opportunities to support youth and families, honor loved ones and deepen your connection to our community:

- Find meaningful ways to give back through the **Climbing Higher campaign**.
- Share your time and talents through Volunteer Opportunities.
- Become a **Member** and make the YMCA your home away from home.



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FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT® FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

For questions or to get involved, contact us:

YMCA of the Rockies Philanthropy and Membership Department

970-586-8121

P.O. Box 20800 Estes Park, CO 80511

ymcarockies.org/give ymcarockies.org/membership ymcarockies.org/careers

