

**Subject:** A Quarterly Update: Strengthening Partnerships at the Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA  
**Sent:** 12/30/2025, 3:15:38 PM  
**From:** Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA<engagesupport@daxkoengage.com>  
**To:** Jeremy VanMeter

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# Strengthening Gahanna Through Meaningful Partnerships

Dear Clerk VanMeter,

As part of our commitment to a strong, collaborative partnership with the City of Gahanna, I'm pleased to introduce a new quarterly email update for the Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA. Each edition will provide a brief, clear snapshot of our community impact, emerging opportunities for collaboration and progress toward our shared priorities. Our intent is to keep you closely connected to the work we're doing together to strengthen the well-being and vitality of Gahanna for all residents.

**For over 20 years, the Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA has been more than a community center — we have been a partner in growth, health and opportunity.** At the YMCA, we believe that we achieve more when we come together with a shared vision of strong communities, and we are grateful we get to collaborate with you as a meaningful community partner. **Together, we can continue to serve five generations of Gahanna residents, meeting their diverse needs, connecting them to resources and helping them thrive.**

In Service,

**Tony Collins**

President & Chief Executive Officer  
YMCA of Central Ohio

## Impact Over the Years

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### **20+ Years of Impact**

Through the Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA, improving whole-person health and connecting the community.



### **Over \$3.9 Million Invested**

Since 2004 into Gahanna residents through membership scholarships to ensure access to transformational programs and services for all.

**Welcome, Chris Russo!**

## Meet Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA Associate Vice President of Operations



Chris Russo joins us as the new Associate Vice President of Center Operations, with oversight of our Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA. He comes to us from Rapid City, South Dakota, where he led operations across three YMCA centers and championed data-driven approaches to membership growth and impactful programming.

### Our Commitment to Gahanna

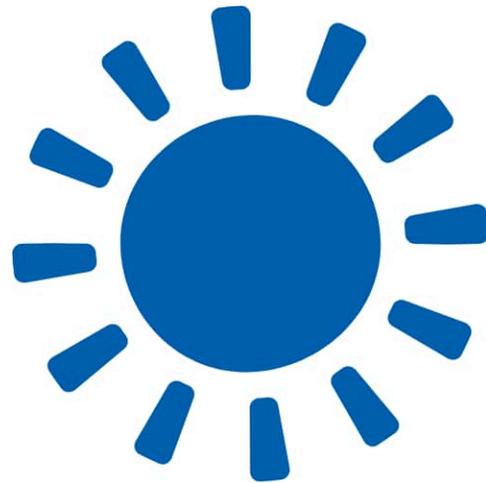
1

We are committed to **ensuring all Gahanna families have access to safe spaces for children and youth to learn, grow and thrive.**



**573 Children**

Stayed active, developed leadership skills and learned teamwork last year through youth sports.

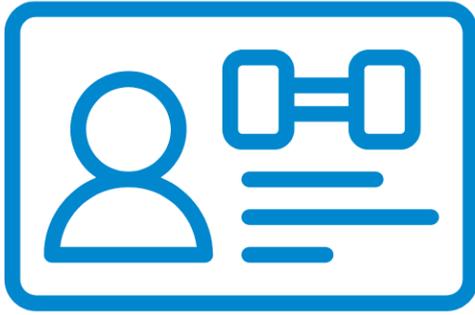


**138 Children**

Built friendships, had fun outdoors and extended learning with STEM activities last year at Summer Day Camp.

2

We are committed to **helping five generations of Gahanna residents build a healthy spirit, mind and body.**



### **12,348 Members**

Improved whole-person health in 2024 during 245,063 visits.



### **5,937 Older Adults**

Stayed active, improved their quality of life and built relationships last year at our community center.

## **3**

We are committed to **providing opportunities of access that ensure long-term security and well-being for all Gahanna families, regardless of circumstances.**



### **\$119,543 Financial Assistance**

Awarded to Gahanna residents last year to ensure access to transformational programs and services for all.



### **44 Expectant New Mothers**

Were linked to health & social services last year to ensure their babies were born healthy and made it to and beyond their 1st birthday through Y CARES.

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**Thank You for Your Partnership**

**We are honored to partner with you and all of City of Gahanna government to serve the Gahanna community,** meeting critical needs across five generations so that all people have the tools and resources they need to meet their full potential.



**Chris Russo**, Gahanna/John E. Bickley YMCA Associate Vice President of Operations



**Tony Collins**, YMCA of Central Ohio President & CEO

**Let us know what is important to you! What updates do you want to hear from the YMCA?**

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**YMCA OF CENTRAL OHIO**

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