



the Y STRENGTHENING CITRUS TOGETHER

INFORMING DONORS OF THE IMPACT OF THEIR GIFT TO THE CITRUS MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION YMCA

SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER 2018

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Sam and Debi Herman are both avid supporters of the Citrus County YMCA. Debi is an active volunteer in numerous capacities. Debi and Sam moved to Citrus County five years ago. Like other newcomers to the area, they took advantage of the amazing attractions the county has to offer such as swimming with the manatees, fishing the gulf waters and enjoying the natural beauty of a Florida sunset.

"However, after living in Citrus County for just a short time, we realized that there was something important missing - our county needed a heartbeat." A place for people of all ages to interact and share a sense



of community. We learned that the county was finally going to open a YMCA and in 2016, through the hard work and generosity of many, the YMCA opened their doors.

"We are thrilled to help support the YMCA as we have seen an unwavering commitment of leadership and team members - they listen

and respond to the specific needs of our community and provide the opportunity for members to discover who they are and who they can become by providing programs that empower members to learn healthy living skills, gain confidence and exhibit social responsibility."

However, the Herman's believe it's not just about supporting the Y through financial contributions. Debi was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease three years ago. She began working out at the Y with a specific regimen targeting balance and strength - her doctors have been amazed at her progress and attribute a good portion of this to her exercise program. The Y is not only part of Debi's weekly workout schedule, it has also become an integral part of her lifestyle through the many volunteer activities in which she participates. Even their grandchildren are benefiting from the Y - they have participated in several summer camp opportunities and their oldest granddaughter even works at the Y. "The Y provides this community with so many ways to interact with people from all walks of life."

If you haven't been to the Y lately, we strongly urge you to take a tour and talk to the staff. It's an amazing organization and Citrus County is very blessed to have the YMCA here.

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TAKE A TOUR TODAY!

Please contact Joanna Castle, Citrus YMCA District Vice President, at (352) 500-9622 or at jcastle@suncoastymca.org if you would like a personal tour of the Citrus Memorial Health Foundation YMCA.

WAYS TO PARTNER

Did you know that you can give to your local YMCA in more ways than just cash? You can donate your time and participate in the Y's Togetherhood projects. You can also gift stock, in-kind, matching gifts, in honor/in memory, marketable securities, planned giving, or charitable trust. For more information contact Joanna Castle: jcastle@suncoastymca.org or (352) 500-9622.

QUESTIONS COMMENTS

Do you prefer to receive this electronically? Please email: donor-news@suncoastymca.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 7th, 2018 - Youth Triathlon
- October 19th, 2018 - Fall Festival
- December 9th, 2018 - Breakfast with Santa

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

At the Y, we believe that all children should have the tools and support they need to reach their God-given potential. In August, through various donations and partners, the Y was able to hold a Back to School Event and serve over 150 students in Citrus County.



The event was by invitation only and gave students and parents access to free backpacks and supplies to prepare their child for the new school year. The room was organized in shopping fashion with a rack of school supplies, lists from each district school and a large assortment of fun and colorful notebooks, binders, and other supplies. The event also provided free haircuts from Quick Stop Barber & Beauty in Beverly Hills and vouchers from Scalps Barbershop in Homosassa. Partners included the Florida Health Department who gave out toothbrushes and toothpaste, The Early Learning Coalition offered a display on car seat safety, Cayla's Coats gave information on water safety and vouchers for free YMCA swim lessons and Citrus County Blessings provided snacks to everyone who attended.

This event was made possible by the support of our kindhearted members and our community through the donation of school supplies. All of the shoes and socks were generously donated by the Brooksville Target. Every student that attended was able to leave with new school supplies and the confidence to start the new school year ready to learn and achieve.

2018 SUMMER CAMP

The Citrus County Y just ended another successful Summer Camp! This year, the Y held summer camps at three sites: Citrus Springs Elementary, Crystal River Elementary and Inverness Middle School. These sites provided a safe environment for both the Y's teens and youth and kept children engaged with field trips, guest speakers and literacy activities. This summer the Y provided camp to 607 children, 195 of which benefited from the People Helping People program. This program offers low income families the ability to afford summer camp. Due to the generous support of donors and partners, such as the Suncoast Credit Union Foundation who provided \$15,000 to the Y's financial assistance program, the Y was able to remain open to all and provide memories that will last a lifetime for our local youth.



TOGETHERHOOD PROJECT

Togetherhood is a member-led service group that gives back to the community through volunteer projects. The Citrus YMCA recently held a Togetherhood Project at Rock Crusher Elementary School on July 27th. This project provided the opportunity for parents, teachers and members of the community to volunteer to restore the exterior of the school and its grounds.

"I just can't express our appreciation enough for everybody pitching in, it really goes to show how much our community cares and helps our schools," Sean Furniss, Principal. "To

donate their time on a

very hot Friday and bring their tools to try to make our school a better place, I can't emphasize enough what a true blessing that is."

Sponsors include Pro Pressure Cleaning, Advanced Disposal, K.S. Land Service LLC, Lowes, Publix, and Steve and Jewel Lamb.



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