



# STRENGTHENING CITRUS TOGETHER

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT TO THE CITRUS MEMORIAL HEALTH FOUNDATION YMCA

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2021

## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Lanse and Carina Fero have been married since 2016 and recently celebrated their 5th anniversary. Growing up in Beverly Hills and now living in Lecanto, Lanse is a 3rd generation Floridian and has a long family history in Citrus County. His grandfather moved to Dunnellon from New York City in 1954. Carina grew up in a military family before her father moved to Citrus County to work at the power plant. Together, Lanse and Carina manage the commercial division of Fero and Son's Insurance with offices in Dunnellon, Beverly Hills and Ocala. They have 3 beautiful children – Mia, Jace and Brock.

The Fero Family are heavily involved with the Y in multiple ways. Their son, Brock started developmental swim lessons to ensure he was safe around the water. He excelled so much that he quickly joined the swim team and has been in the water ever since. The day that their daughter, Mia turned 6 months old, they brought her to the Y and put her in swim lessons. Lanse mentioned that working out together as a family helps to start healthy habits and they help keep each other accountable. Their family is in the Y at least 5 days per week and they all stay active!

When asked about their experience with staff, they said that is one of their favorite things about the Y. "Knowing that the staff here really care about their jobs is so helpful as a member." Lanse said that every staff member that he comes into contact with at the Y is always friendly and wants to help. Specifically, the Kids Zone staff is warm and welcoming to their children and they are always engaging with the children.



Being a stay-at-home mom, Carina finds her time at the Y to be a place that she can re-energize and find balance so she can be fully engaged with her children. She also said that since COVID, it has been a great place to bring her kids to get the social interaction they need, while in the Kids Zone.

Lanse and Carina supported the Y financially in different ways. Because of their children's interest in aquatics, they made a donation to help support the Youth Triathlon that will be held in October. They have also been advocates for the swim team that meets throughout the week.

### TAKE A TOUR TODAY!

Please contact David Reed, Citrus Memorial Health Foundation YMCA Executive Director at [dreed@suncoastymca.org](mailto:dreed@suncoastymca.org) or (352) 500-9622 if you would like a personal tour of the facility.

### 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 through your employer, in honor/in memory, marketable securities, planned giving, or charitable trust. For more information please contact David Reed at (352) 500-9622 or email at [dreed@suncoastymca.org](mailto:dreed@suncoastymca.org).

### ADVISORY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHT

Tracy Alm has been a YMCA Advisory Council member since 2016. Tracy is committed to keeping our Y open to everyone in our community and serves on the Membership Committee to help give insight on what our members want and need. She has been a strong ambassador for our cause and also serves on the YMCA of the Suncoast Board of Directors. Tracy is always available to help with events and especially enjoys helping with cleaning up the trail. We are fortunate to have her support of our cause and her passion to improve lives in our community.

## NEW PARTNERSHIP

The YMCA has recently partnered with the City of Crystal River and will be operating programs at the Jim LeGrone Park facility. The partnership will allow the YMCA to offer programs and services to this community. The YMCA plans to run sports leagues, summer camp, adult enrichment courses, and mentoring programs out of this facility. On August 7th, we held a community project known as Prosperity Citrus at this location where we welcomed different organizations to provide resources to the citizens in Crystal River. The goal of this event was to share all of the services that Citrus County has to offer, in hopes of ending generational poverty. For more information on this location, please call David Reed at 352-500-9622.



## YMCA CAMP READERS

The Citrus Memorial Health Foundation YMCA received a \$10,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation to promote literacy while school is out. As part of a national YMCA initiative called Camp Readers, the Y is adding 30 minutes of reading to daily activities for kids to help prevent learning loss during out-of-school time. The donation from the Duke Energy Foundation helped provide a diverse selection of books, curriculum and literacy games to all of the Y campsites in Citrus County, serving 400 children this summer. The YMCA Camp Readers program helps to tackle summer learning loss by motivating youth to read for fun, build general reading skills, and increase their reading confidence when they are out of school. The Y provides kids in Citrus County with the opportunity to explore the outdoors, learn new skills, and make new friendships and memories. In addition to reading activities, swimming, crafts, and games. To ensure all youth have the chance to experience camp, the Y offers financial assistance through the People Helping People program to those in need of support.

## ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Tracy Alm

Johnny Cash

Susan Gill

Jay Joines

Tara Mckendry

Patrick Simon

Don Taylor

Nancy Ayres

Chuck Dixon

Tim Graff

Jeff Kinnard

Gerry Mulligan

Danita Smith

Michael Tringali

Joe Brannen

Scott Hebert

Debi Herman

Jewel Lamb

Bonnie Rybak

Craig Stevens

Ellen Zane

Mike Busler

Larry Gamble

Al Hopkins

Doug Lobel