



of Grays Harbor

July 2010

Dear YMCA Supporters,

It is hard to believe the kids are out of school and summer is here. The YMCA is busy and our summer programs are starting up. I wanted to take some time to report on a few of the good things happening at the YMCA.

One of the most exciting things for our YMCA is our participation in the YMCA of the USA's Gulick Collaborative. This is a yearlong training process that will give us the tools to become a learning organization that makes data driven decisions. It is named after Luther Gulick who was the YMCA employee that directed James Naismith to come up with an indoor winter sport. Obviously, the sport he invented was basketball. Luther Gulick is also the person who created the red "spirit, mind and body" triangle in 1891. This was the YMCA's logo for many years. He is known for revolutionizing sports and physical fitness at the YMCA's Springfield College. Of the over 500 YMCAs across the country that are participating in Activate America, seventeen were invited to be in the Gulick Collaborative this year. Our invitation was based on the positive work our YMCA has done to reach health seekers. It is encouraging to receive this kind of recognition to be in the top 4% of Activate America YMCAs in the country. The Board of Directors agreed to move forward with this initiative knowing it will help us shift to the next level.



Beginning on April 16th, Erik Kupka and Katie Snodgrass led the Strong Kids Campaign as the campaign chairs. Over forty campaigners raised money to help us meet our campaign goals this year. We set out to raise \$150,000 in five weeks. The campaign total at the end was just over \$133,000. We are currently at \$135,000 and hope some more donations will come in over the next few weeks. A big thank you to all of the campaigners, captains and chairs for helping with this year's Strong Kids Campaign.



Youth & Government completed its 63rd youth legislature in May. Fifteen teens were in our delegation this year. As always, they enjoyed all aspects of the program from debating bills to making new friends from all over the state. Cassie Dubore was elected to the position of Speaker Pro Tem this year by her peers. As the speaker Pro Tem she will be responsible for presiding over the House in the absence of the Speaker of the House. She will also preside over the O'Brien House. Youth & Government is a great program that continues to impact many lives.



Youth & Government at the State Capitol

March 31st marked the end of our fiscal year. We completed the year in the black and were able to place 2% of operations into our reserve fund. This was unplanned and unbudgeted, but it is our goal to grow our reserve fund for capital expenses. We were excited to have a successful year financially and hope this year is just as successful.

We are currently in the process of planning for the replacement of the bath houses at Camp Bishop. With the help of Al Gozart and the Camp Committee members we have a great design out for bid. The bath houses and the dining hall are the last pieces that need to be replaced at camp. After we receive the bids we will be looking for donations of materials, money and labor to make it happen. The initial estimates put each bath house at \$125,000. These bath houses will make Camp Bishop that much more enjoyable for the thousands of people that use them every year.

Thank you for your continued support of the YMCA. Have a great summer and I look forward to reporting on the YMCA in the future.

Sincerely,

Kurtis Dawson
Executive Director / CEO
YMCA of Grays Harbor