We Belong to Chicago.
Today’s environmental considerations are the foundation of tomorrow’s ecological landscape. This annual report celebrates our accomplishments in a responsible way, but also in an engaging interactive manner that minimizes our carbon footprint.

www.ymcachgo.org
It is with great pleasure that the YMCA of Metro Chicago and its Board of Managers present its 2008 annual report—celebrating 150 years of service to the community.

Each year of our history has been marked by undeniable accomplishments in face of the challenges of changing times, but more than anything, what marks our history is our commitment to helping people.

The Y’s impact in our communities extends well beyond our gyms and historic camps. The Y is one of the largest providers of critical services in the Chicagoland region, offering everything from pre-natal care to gang intervention to job training to senior care. There is rarely an instance in a person’s life in which the Y does not play a role.

We are proud to say that throughout its 150 years, the Y has been addressing the issues that most challenge our communities, constantly adapting the way we deliver on our mission promise to better serve children, individuals and families. This year’s annual report is a glance back at where we started and where we are today, a retrospective that reminds us how rich our history is and how much we have to look forward to.

We thank you for our past and continued support of our mission and the employees that deliver that mission each and every day. Your support has impacted someone you may never meet, but rest assured that you made the impossible possible for that person.

Together, we continue providing opportunities to people throughout the region and celebrate 150 years of a family history.

Belong to the next 150.

Stephen S. Cole
President & CEO

John E. Neal
Chair, Board of Managers
Because Generosity Belongs in Chicago.

In preparing for our sesquicentennial, we dug through our archives, looked at thousands of pictures, each capturing a split second of our history, and read through old board minutes, press releases and hundreds of other documents. We immersed ourselves in our history, in who we were at different points in time, and we wonder what people will think in the future when they read through our notes, look at our pictures and contemplate our achievements of today. We hope our actions will speak volumes of our dedication to the Chicagoland region.

The YMCA movement has traditionally been at its best when our country has faced its most difficult times. We have always responded in relevant and influential ways: the creation of the USO to support American military personnel and their families; our involvement in the Civil Right movement; the expansion of after-school programs in the 1970s when we saw an increase in two-income families; our leadership in addressing the obesity epidemic; and many other examples that demonstrate how the Y transforms itself to meet the social issues of our times. We have defined ourselves by our actions and have proven over the course of our history that we are a responsive movement, adapting to our communities' needs.

It’s no different today. The Y removes barriers to health and wellness, aids youth development, assists personal achievement, and gives a direct connection to nature in the midst of a harried society. To a family, we might be their favorite pool. To a child, we might be their best friend. To an adult, we might be the second chance they so desperately need. All in all, we’re in the business of human potential.

Our mission is not static. It’s not a destination. It evolves to meet the needs of the communities we serve and the individuals that depend on our programs and services. Understanding our mission is important. Our dedication to deliver on that mission is critical. But, it’s equally imperative that we connect on a more personal level to the people that are part of our Y family. We need to know names, faces and hear their stories.

continued on next page
June 21, the actual date on which our charter was signed in 1858, coincided with our Anniversary Birthday Ball and the summer solstice—guaranteeing a long day (and night) of YMCA festivities.

We were thrilled to start the day with a member appreciation event at Daley Bicentennial Park, an opportunity to gather families from across the Association and provide fun activities for them.

The evening took us to the Harris Theater in Millennium Park, where Bill Kurtis emceed the presentation that featured a Donna LaPietra-produced program of Y stories and The Human Rhythm Project dance. It’s these stories, as told by Y employees, clients, volunteers and partners, that best described the complex work that goes into delivering our mission: Cara Diggs sharing how the YMCA has helped extend school programming; Kenny Ruiz describing his work with youth in gangs; Diane Tubbs bravely facing the challenges of single motherhood; Alice Doyle sharing what the Elmhurst YMCA has meant in her life.

If you missed this series of compelling YMCA stories, click here to see the video on our Web site.

We, as an organization, are only as successful as our volunteers are committed. Bill Osborn, of the Northern Trust Corporation, was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his long-standing support of the Y’s mission. His enthusiasm and dedication are symbolic of the broad support Chicago’s finest philanthropists have offered the Y throughout its history.

And while our 150 years of mission work is due to the multiple generations of committed and responsive leaders, the equally important players in this milestone achievement are our volunteers and our employees. To them, we are eternally indebted. To all of you who advance our mission each and every day, in small but significant ways, thank you for your continued support!

It’s a great time to be at the Chicago Y!
At the start of the 20th century, the city saw an influx of young men hoping to make a better life for themselves and their families by finding jobs in Chicago. Noticing this immigration trend, the YMCA felt it needed to provide a safe and affordable home to the thousands of young men who were arriving. Already, many of these young men were forced by poverty or ignorance of the city to flophouses and less-than-ideal living conditions.

Thanks to people like Loring Wilbur Messer, who dreamed of low-cost hotels where these men could stay until they found permanent housing; Julius Rosenwald, who agreed to lead the fundraising effort; and the top 10 donors, including John G. Shedd, Cyrus H. McCormick, William Wrigley, Jr., J. Ogden Armour and Victor Lawson, who followed his charge, YMCA hotels became a reality.

Today, the Lawson House YMCA, named after Victor Lawson and the largest single-room occupancy center of its kind in the Midwest, is still a safe place for people and has evolved to include wrap-around supportive services such as medical, dental and psychiatric care, and case management that connects residents to jobs, training and counseling services. Our goal is to provide our residents with the tools they need to become their best selves and help them transition to permanent housing.

This is a considerable charge and certainly not something that we can accomplish alone. It requires dedicated partners, such as Northwestern Memorial Hospital that has funded and operated the Denny Community Health Center in Lawson House, a free clinic since 2000. They recently partnered with Near North Health Services to quadruple the size of the clinic in order to accommodate more patients, decrease wait times, and share their services not just with Lawson residents, but all YMCA housing residents and community members.

This partnership helps us improve the health and well-being of our residents, focusing on preventive care to mitigate the possibilities that small, treatable ailments will become chronic conditions. Together, we help residents stay on the road of good health.
In the 19th century, the YMCA's youth programs focused on trade and vocational skills, but in the 1940s, the Y expanded its educational programs to incorporate high school and college-level work to more effectively address juvenile delinquency.

The “University of Good Government” gave youth the opportunity to witness their government in action, to meet with local elected officials, to delve into issues and discuss them with peers, educators and political leaders, and travel to Springfield for a close look at state government. In the Spring of 1945, more than 300 girls and boys were enrolled in this unique University.

During the 1950s and into the 1960s, the Y expanded programs to develop young leaders, to provide job training and placement for high school drop-outs, and to help manage conflict among inner-city youth. With that, the YMCA joined the nation’s War on Poverty. Not only were we meeting the challenges of that day’s youth, we also were trying to give them the opportunity to succeed.

Our work with youth today is as varied and as important. In 2008, Chicago had the distinct pleasure of hosting the Midwestern Regional YMCA Black and Hispanic Achievers (BAHA) Teen Summit, an academic achievement and personal development conference. There, hundreds of youth from around the country gathered to explore college and career options, learn more about health and wellness, and hone their leadership skills.

Today, it’s not enough to keep youth out of trouble like we did 50 years ago. We need to help them dream so that they can achieve. Let’s propel their dreams to the edge of their known horizon and then push them a little further to a whole new world of experiences. BAHA teaches youth that where they are today isn’t as important as where they can go in life, and truly, there’s no telling who they will become or what they can achieve. What is certain is that we have to help them try.
Because Wellness Belongs in Chicago.

We have consistently used a variety of recreational tools in our YMCA membership centers and camps to seed and grow the character values that define us—caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Basketball and volleyball were born at a YMCA. The first indoor pool in the country was housed at a YMCA. We have a strong history of using sports and recreation as a way of bringing people together, not just introducing them to healthier lifestyles.

The 1980s and 1990s were the boom of the fitness industry. YMCA gyms gained in popularity. Aerobics took off. Running became a popular individual sport. It also was a time in which the YMCA introduced programs like Everybody in the Pool, an initiative that engaged thousands of second grade students in a swim program; Healthy Kids Day, an effort to provide fitness and nutrition education programming that continues to this day; and On Track, an early response to the already burgeoning adolescent obesity problem that has become a national epidemic.

Nowadays, wellness is more family-focused at the YMCA. We understand that in order for children to be healthy, we need to engage the entire family in healthier habits and physical activities. The critical component is making it fun.

The Buehler YMCA in Palatine created the Average Joe Triathlon, a program that encourages community individuals, families, companies and classrooms to cover triathlon distances, 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run, over the course of a month.

Participants earn miles by engaging in traditional fitness activities, but also may earn miles if they attend a health screening, walk their dog, stop smoking, take the stairs or eat healthier, to name a few options. Now in its third year, the program has grown into a community partnership, allowing participants to adopt healthier lifestyles through a variety of community-based programs and services.

The YMCA and its local partners help demonstrate that health and wellness extend beyond a treadmill or a New Year’s resolution. Everyone is capable of small, yet impactful, changes.
Because Potential Belongs in Chicago.

The 1920s brought the opening of many new facilities in the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago region: Camp Duncan, Camp Hastings, Camp Wabash, Camp Northwoods, Camp Nawakwa, Camp Pinewood and Camp Martin Johnson.

Camp is so rooted in tradition that many things do not change over the years. The kids still paddle canoes and swim. Families still want the same cabin year after year. Postcards are written. Stories are shared over a campfire. No matter the decade, those things stay the same.

What has changed is our ability to serve children with specialized medical needs. So often, children with medical conditions feel isolated from their peers and don’t have the chance to experience the great outdoors. In 1920, who would have dreamed of a camp for burn survivors and children living with diabetes or Tourette’s Syndrome? Today, YMCA Camp Duncan meets those complex needs.

Most recently, the YMCA broke ground on Camp Independence, a year-round, outdoor retreat and habilitation center for children with spina and other neurological diseases, such as cerebral palsy, brain tumors and spinal cord injuries. This camp, which will be on YMCA Camp Duncan grounds, will count on special installations, such as fully-accessible cabins, bathrooms and common areas, to accommodate our new campers.

In the 1960s, children born with spina bifida had a five percent chance of survival. Today, medical advances have made it possible for 95 percent of those children to live well into adulthood, but many live with parents who, one day, will be unable to care for them. The state-of-the-art facility is designed specifically to impart independence skills to young people with spina bifida. The YMCA is helping these youth understand that there isn’t anything they can’t accomplish. There is no greater lesson that we could hope to teach at Camp Independence.
2008 Outcomes

statement of activities

Public support 2008 Total 2007 Total
25,121,313 24,554,678
Other revenue 59,758,997 58,623,709
Total public support and revenue 84,880,310 83,178,387
Total expenses 83,000,865 83,270,467
Public support & revenue greater/(less) than expenses before nonoperating income/(expense) 1,879,445 (92,080)
Nonoperating income/(expense) (22,384,915) 56,810,659
Change in net assets (20,505,470) 56,718,579
Net assets at beginning of year 189,091,435 132,372,856
Net assets at end of year 168,585,965 189,091,435

statement of financial position

Current assets 2008 Total 2007 Total
29,581,825 28,191,689
Investments 159,551,086 170,955,555
Property and other assets 118,293,511 119,135,042
Total assets 307,426,422 318,282,286
Current liabilities 21,231,998 18,454,583
Other liabilities 117,608,459 110,736,268
Net assets 168,585,965 189,091,435
Total liabilities and net assets 307,426,422 318,282,286

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## 2008 Outcomes

### Total Public Support & Other Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2007</th>
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<tr>
<td>Public support and revenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government-funded programs</td>
<td>18,841,273</td>
<td>19,146,528</td>
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<td>Contributions</td>
<td>3,609,820</td>
<td>3,170,709</td>
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<td>United Way</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total public support</td>
<td>25,121,313</td>
<td>24,554,678</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership fees</td>
<td>27,967,518</td>
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<td>Program fees</td>
<td>17,615,737</td>
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<td>Residence income</td>
<td>6,931,615</td>
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<td>Interest and other investment income</td>
<td>7,182,018</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>62,109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total other revenue</td>
<td>59,758,997</td>
<td>58,623,709</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total public support &amp; revenue</td>
<td>84,880,310</td>
<td>83,178,387</td>
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### Total Expenses

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<td>Program services</td>
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<td>Management &amp; general</td>
<td>11,101,156</td>
<td>10,783,805</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>1,751,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>83,000,865</td>
<td>83,270,467</td>
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</table>

Public support & revenue greater/(less) than expenses before nonoperating income/(expense)  
1,879,445  
(92,080)
While 2008 was a year filled with economic turmoil, the YMCA of Metro Chicago ended the year with an operating surplus of almost $1.9 million due to a 2.3% increase in public support, a 2% increase in other revenue, and reduced operating expenses. Nonoperating expenses, primarily unrealized losses on investments, resulted in a total change in net assets of ($20.5) million and a year-end net asset balance of $168.6 million.
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Assistant Secretary and Trustee

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A. Steven Crown
Yolanda M. Deen
Benno C. Friedrich
S. James Perlow
David J. Vitale

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Richard H. Leet
Tino J. Mantella
Scott C. Smith
Bide L. Thomas

*deceased
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Erskine Cunningham
Vice President of Human Services

Stephen S. Dahlin
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Kathleen A. Hechinger
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Kimberly J. Kiser
Senior Vice President of Camping

Lynn Norman
Vice President and General Counsel

Ray Vazquez
Executive Vice President of Government Relations

Charmaine Williams
Senior Vice President of Human Resources
Center Leadership

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**Buehler YMCA**
Laura J. Brown
Executive Director

**Jeff Butterfield**
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Vice Chairman
Cornerstone National Bank and Trust Co.

**Elmhurst YMCA**
Maureen McCarthy
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**Sarah Diamond**
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**Emil Jones, Jr. Senior Housing**
 Cherese Ledet
Executive Director

**Foglia YMCA**
Carrie Wall
Vice President of Operations

**Sean Nelson**
Executive Director

**Rob Bialk**
Board Chair
Vice President of Strategic Partnerships
TalentDrive

**Fred C. Matthews, III Senior Housing**
Cherese Ledet
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**Grayslake YMCA**
Angie Flesch
Operations Director

**Greater LaGrange YMCA**
Kathy L. Bosco
Vice President of Operations and Executive Director

**Charles Joern**
Board Chair
Partner
Holland & Knight

**Hastings Lake YMCA**
Katie Wall
Operations Director

**High Ridge YMCA**
Jill J. Grimshaw
Executive Director

**Diane Mrakitsch**
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Vice President
Community First Bank of Chicago

**Independence Place**
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Executive Director

**Indian Boundary YMCA**
Barbara Taylor
Vice President of Operations and Interim Executive Director

**Alan Allphin**
Board Chair
Vice President
ISMIE Mutual Insurance Company

**Irving Park YMCA**
Mark S. Langan
Executive Director

**Kevin Neuman**
Board Chair
Managing Director
VerveLife

**Jesse Jackson, Jr. Senior Housing - East and West Buildings**
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Executive Director

**Kelly Hall**
Stanley Lewis
Executive Director

**Lake View YMCA**
H. Brian Page
Executive Director

**Ryan VanMeter**
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Management Consultant
JRB & Company

**Lattof YMCA**
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Executive Director

**Lawson House YMCA**
Lisa Boulden Williams
Executive Director

**South Chicago Senior Housing**
Cherese Ledet
Executive Director

**South Chicago YMCA**
Shelly A. Butler
Executive Director

**Barb Tieder**
Board Chair
Director of External Affairs
Chicago Family Health Center

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Vice President of Policy and Advocacy  
Jane Addams Hull House Association

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Executive Director

**West Communities YMCA**
Roesander C. Lane  
Executive Director

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YMCA Children’s Services  
Dr. Effie O. Ellis YMCA  
Head Start, Garfield YMCA, High Ridge YMCA, Jeanne Kenney YMCA Day Care, Logan Square: First Lutheran, Marshall YMCA, McCormick Tribune YMCA, North Lawndale YMCA, Rauner Family YMCA, South Chicago YMCA, South Side YMCA, Wabash YMCA  
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YMCA Community Schools Program  
Sharon Covey  
Executive Director

YMCA Street Intervention Program  
Kenny Ruiz  
Executive Director

Third Age YMCA Senior Homecare  
Margaret Purnell  
Executive Director

West Side Future YMCA  
Laura Y. Pleasants  
Executive Director

YMCA Alliance  
Laura Y. Pleasants  
Executive Director

Charles A. Krugel  
Board Chair  
Attorney-at-Law

YMCA Network  
Peter G. Sari  
Executive Director

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Senior Vice President of Camping

**Camp Independence**  
Kimberly J. Kiser  
Senior Vice President of Camping

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Executive Director

**Camp Pinewood YMCA**  
Erik Bengston  
Executive Director

Kent Dean  
Board Chair  
Attorney-at-Law

Camp Nawakwa YMCA  
Kirby Petersen  
Executive Director

**Camp Independence**  
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Senior Vice President of Camping

**Camp MacLean YMCA**  
Brian Ensberg  
Executive Director

Ted Flint  
Board Chair  
Vice President, Senior Portfolio Manager  
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$100,000 +  
Charter One Bank  
Foglia Family Foundation  
JPMorgan Chase Foundation  
National Recreation Foundation  
Northern Trust  
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago  
Western Union Foundation

Grand Patron  
$25,000 +  
Brinson Foundation  
The Bruning Foundation  
Canning Family Foundation  
Circle of Service Foundation  
Exelon Corporation  
Lloyd A. Fry Foundation  
Harris Bank  
Illinois Tool Works  
KPMG  
Merrill Lynch & Co  
Sidley Austin Foundation

Grand Sponsor  
$10,000 +  
After School Matters  
The Allstate Foundation  
AON  
Alben F. and Clara G. Bates Foundation  
Bluhm Family Charitable Foundation  
Colliers Bennett & Kahnweiler Comcast Foundation  
Community Memorial Foundation  
DiMatteo Family Foundation  
Donnelley Charitable Trust  
The Donnelley Foundation  
The Edgewater Funds  
Energy BBDO  
Grosvenor Capital Management  
Madison Dearborn Partners  
The Martin-Brower Company  
McKinsey & Company  
PepsiCo Bottlers  
Pritzker Family Foundation  
Reyes Holding  
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
Round Table Healthcare  
Dr. Scholl Foundation  
George Shields Foundation  
Smogolski Family Charitable Lead Trust  
Otho S.A. Sprague Memorial Institute  
United Airlines  
WTAS LLC  
Zollie & Elaine Frank Fund/ Z Frank Chevrolet

Patron  
$2,500 +  
Adreani Foundation  
Alberto-Culver Company  
Baker & McKenzie  
Chapin-May Foundation  
Credit Suisse  
Disney Worldwide Services  
Federated Stores  
Fifth Third Bank  
Fortune Brands  
Freeborn & Peters  
General Growth Properties  
Geneva Savings  
Greater North Michigan Avenue Association  
John Buck Company  
Latham & Watkins  
Magellan Development  
Mayer Brown  
RSM McGladrey  
Russell Reynolds  
The Siragusa Foundation  
TMB Industries  
Trees Investment Counsel  
Tristan Annual Fund  
V3 Realty  
Walgreen Company  
Washington Exclusives  
Winston & Strawn
2008 Donor Partners

The YMCA of Metro Chicago celebrates the role of generous individual, corporate and foundation donors, as well as the United Way, in advancing YMCA services throughout the metropolitan area. Also, we thank the many City of Chicago, suburban, State of Illinois and federal government agencies that partner with the YMCA.

In addition, many organizations and individuals made valuable in-kind donations to the YMCA during 2008. These partners participated in volunteer projects at our centers or donated goods and services for use in the community. Their in-kind contributions played an essential role in strengthening YMCA service throughout Chicago and its suburbs.

All of our donors have partnered with the YMCA to advance our mission and to promote our core values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility.

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