



GATEWAY REGION YMCA ENDOWMENT 2023 REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



What a great time to be part of the Gateway Region YMCA! In 2023, we celebrated our 170th year serving the St. Louis and Southwest Illinois regions. The year was marked with growth, renovations, and the deepening of meaningful relationships, reaffirming our commitment to serving the children, teens and families of our region.

We are particularly proud of the tremendously successful completion of our Comprehensive “Opportunity for All” Campaign. Launched in 2018, we wrapped up year-five of the campaign by raising more than \$58 million, exceeding our \$55 million campaign goal. A significant part of this success includes the \$10 million raised for our endowment.

As you may recall, our endowment value dipped in 2022 when we experienced the vast fluctuations in the capital markets, impacting our investments. The endowment, however, recovered extremely well over 2023 through our strategic investments and policies, resulting with the endowment value just shy of where it stood at the close of 2021. We take great pride that our well-managed fund allows us to plan for long-term stability, fiscal responsibility, and financial viability.

Your investment creates a legacy that makes a lasting impact, and we invite others to consider a gift to the endowment as well. Thank you for helping us ensure that the Gateway Region Y will serve the community for another 170 years!

Tim Helm
President and CEO

OUR MISSION: To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

ENDOWMENT OVERVIEW

The purpose of the endowment is to provide maximum sustainable financial support to the Gateway Region YMCA to serve its mission in perpetuity. Core to the endowment’s purpose is balancing the interests of current and future generations of YMCA members and the community the Y serves.

When you give to the endowment fund, the Y invests your gift as part of its overall endowment portfolio. The primary investment objective of the endowment is to generate, on average and over time, inflation-adjusted gains from investment returns that at least match distributions to the institution. The investment strategy is structured to serve this objective.

The spending distribution policy provides a mechanism for delivering financial support to the operating budget while also ensuring protection from the volatility of the capital markets.

Each year, a portion of the value of the endowed fund is distributed to the YMCAs in our Association. The annual endowment distribution is determined based on a rolling 5-year average of the endowment balance as of June 30 the previous year. Historically, the distribution has ranged between 4.0% to 4.75% depending on the needs of the Association.

Gifts designated to a branch or program are distributed as a percentage of the overall value of the fund. Remaining earnings are used to build the endowment's value. In this way, the endowment fund can grow and provide support for its designated purpose in perpetuity.



SAMPLE DISTRIBUTION OF 4%

Gift Amount	Estimated Annual Distribution
\$25,000	\$1,000
\$50,000	\$2,000
\$100,000	\$4,000
\$500,000	\$20,000

THE GATEWAY REGION YMCA’S ENDOWMENT: \$1,186,750
DISTRIBUTION FOR 2023: \$1,186,750

ENDOWMENT MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Supporters of the Gateway Region YMCA have ensured the legacy of our organization for many years. One of the earliest gifts recorded was in 1883 from the Collier Family in honor of their son. The \$5,000 gift was truly significant considering it would equate to a value over \$151,000 in today's world. In their will, the family documented that their hope for the gift would be that the Y would, "actively carry on its benevolent work in the City of St. Louis."

Today, we utilize multiple layers of checks and balances to ensure the health of the endowment fund through internal and external management and support.

INVESTMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

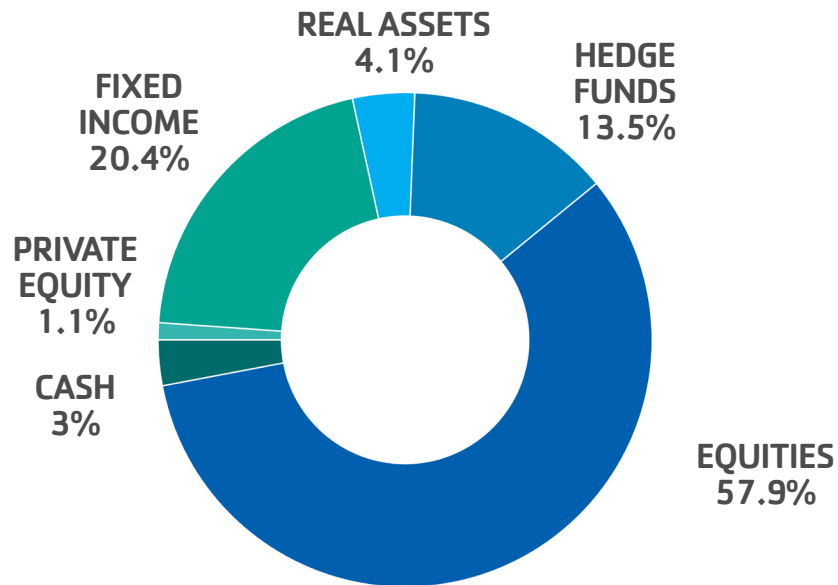
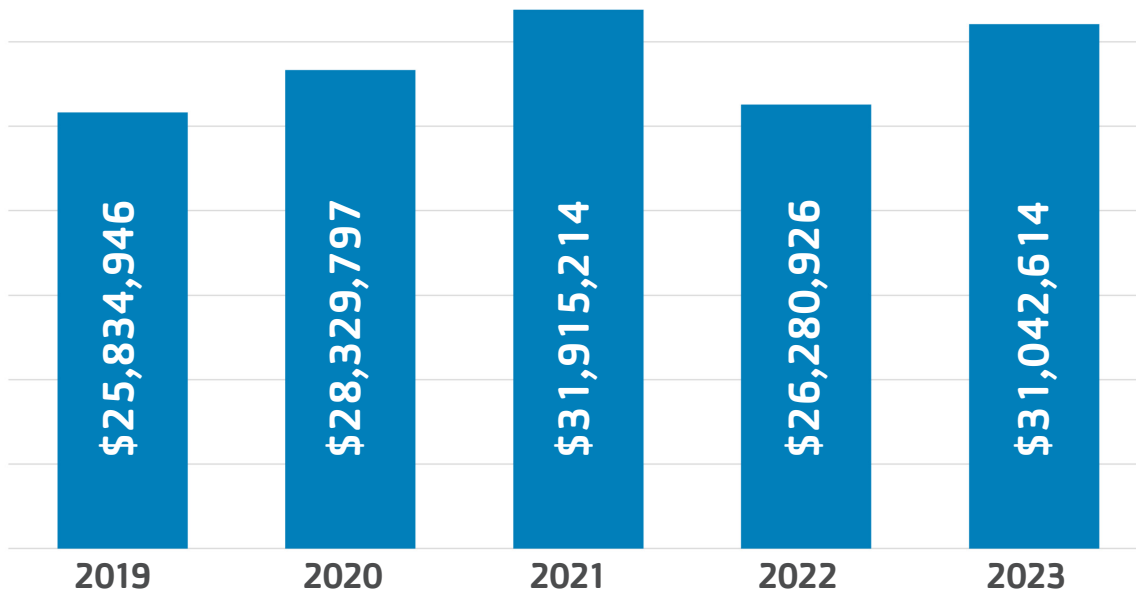
Guided by the Y's Endowment Investment Policy, the Investment Subcommittee reports to the Board of Directors' Finance Committee and is charged with management of the endowment fund. Its responsibilities include to review the performance of the endowment quarterly; review, authorize and monitor the asset allocation targets and acceptable allocation ranges; appraise the performance of the investment managers; annually recommend the Spending Rate Formula to be used as the basis for distributions; and report the endowment's performance to the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

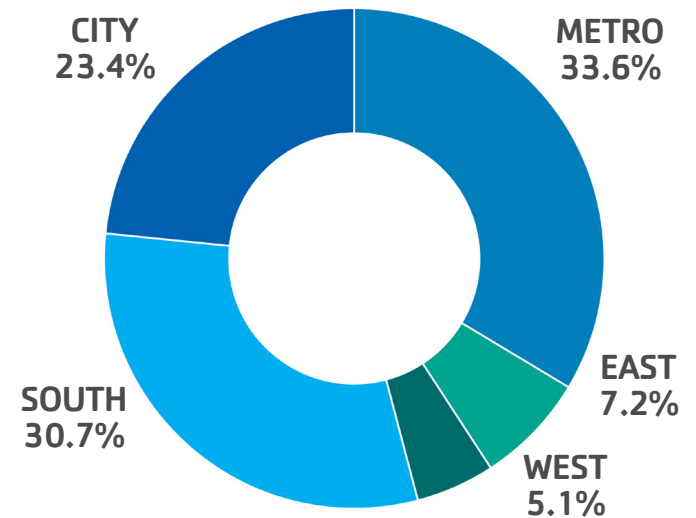
Reporting to the Board of Directors, the purpose of the Resource Development Committee is to ensure financial resources are procured to support the mission and sustainability of the organization. In addition to providing oversight to fundraising appeals such as the Annual Campaign and the Comprehensive Campaign, it is charged with ensuring endowment support is raised annually to contribute to the Endowment Fund.

**"The true meaning of life is to plant trees under
whose shade you do not expect to sit."**

ENDOWMENT VALUE



ENDOWMENT ASSET ALLOCATION



ENDOWMENT SHARES BY DISTRICT

YOUR GIFT AT WORK

Your support of the endowment directly impacts our community by supporting branch programs that serve a wide range of needs and opportunities. These are only a few of the many programs offered across the Association.

- **YOUTH DEVELOPMENT:** 2,083 youth participated in the **Y's soccer program** at a reduced rate thanks to our partnership with St. Louis CITY Soccer Club.
- **HEALTHY LIVING:** 241 individuals participated in a 12-month, group-based **Diabetes Prevention Program** and 104 cancer survivors participated in LiveSTRONG® at the YMCA.
- **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:** more than 1,000 youth and adults participate in sports, fitness, and youth programming through our **Inclusion and Adaptive support services**.



CORPORATE/FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Through our Comprehensive Campaign, the Gateway Region Y received several significant outright cash gifts to the endowment from major Corporate and Foundation donors. These specific funds were designated to support the Bayer Y and our Community Development Branch. Through the years, these funders partnered with us to support the Y's programmatic and operational needs, and most recently the renovation of the Bayer Y. Our key funders recognized how a significant investment in the endowment ensures the long-term sustainability of their Y support.



THE LAMPLIGHTER SOCIETY

Although donors contributed to the endowment as far back as 1883, a recognition society came many years later in 1972 under the leadership of the legendary YMCA Vice President of Financial Development, Dick Stoll. The Lamplighter Society recognizes those who designate the Y as a beneficiary in their estate plans, make an outright gift to the endowment fund or establish various kinds of planned gifts.

The Gateway Region YMCA thanks all those who have made the endowment fund the robust revenue and security reserve it is today, and invites others to consider joining the society.



STORY OF THE LAMPLIGHTER

Sir Harry Lauder, the Scottish humorist and singer, often related a story of those who were responsible for lighting the street lights of his city just at dusk. Sir Harry would watch each lighter progress from lamp to lamp, causing each new light to soften the approaching darkness. “Finally,” said Sir Harry, “even though the lamplighter had disappeared around some far corner, you knew he had been there by the lights he left behind.”

RESOURCES

Estate planning is an opportunity to echo your voice, values, and vision in a plan that uplifts both your family and the greater community. When you include the Gateway Region YMCA in your estate plan, your generosity moves us toward healthier, more connected communities.

We are pleased to share that the Y has recently partnered with FreeWill to support our community in completing the essential task of creating a will. FreeWill provides easy-to-use tools to create your own will and other estate-planning documents—at no cost.

visit gatewayregionymca.planningyourlegacy.org for more planned giving resources.



Explore FreeWill.com



“Leaving a legacy gift to the Y is such a great opportunity to pay it forward. When we think about all the ways we’ve benefitted from the Y, ensuring that it’s provided for others who may need it in the future is a full circle moment.”
- Susan Ratz-Hall & Brian Hall



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Contact us to learn how you can support the Gateway Region YMCA’s mission with a gift to the Endowment Fund.
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