

A BRIEF HISTORY

1911

The Anaheim Family YMCA was established in 1911 by Charles Pearson (who would later go on to become the city's mayor). The YMCA operated out of a house on Philadelphia Street and began offering Hi-Y clubs in local schools. In 1924, Camp Osceola began the Anaheim Y's first camping season. The YMCA Indian Guides program got started two years later, providing parents and children the opportunity to share one-on-one experiences.

1930s-1950s

In 1930, the Anaheim YMCA became incorporated. Through the 40s, the Hi-Y Clubs and Girls Reserves continued to be very popular among youth. In 1950, the YMCA building on Citron Street was constructed, providing a place for even more young people to share in the YMCA experience. Also in 1950, a new YMCA program called Youth & Government made its mark with local high school students.

1960s-1980s

In the late 1960s, the shores of Catalina Island became the home of YMCA Camp Fox, a place for teens to continue their camp experience. In 1967, ground-breaking began at the YMCA's North Street location. A two-phase plan resulted in a magnificent 58,000 sq. ft. facility offering expanded sports activities, aerobics and swimming. The building was officially dedicated in 1972, thanks to a \$1.2 million gift from John and Donna Crean. In 1980, the word "family" was added to the YMCA's name; it would now be officially called the Anaheim Family YMCA.

1980s-1990s

In 1993, the YMCA opened the Children's Station through a partnership with the City of Anaheim to offer quality, low-cost childcare. In 1994, YMCA Character Development was adopted nationwide, tying all Y programs to the four pillars of Honesty, Caring, Respect and Responsibility. In 1995, the YMCA sold its North Street facility and expanded programs across Anaheim. In 1998, the YMCA partnered with the City to offer its Youth Sports programs at the Downtown Community Center. In 1999, the Anaheim Achieves after-school program made its debut on 16 school sites, providing a safe place for thousands of students each day.

2000-Today

In 2001, the Anaheim Y kicked off its new Endowment Program to help ensure a strong, viable YMCA for future generations. On the heels of our 95th anniversary in 2006, the Anaheim Family YMCA continues to serve more kids and families. Today, the Anaheim Achieves after-school program is now at 46 school sites across five school districts; Youth Sports is offering new programs in new locations; child care is expanding to reach more families; Camp and Youth & Government are engaging a booming teen population; and we are planning toward a future YMCA facility, which will further strengthen the health and wellness of our community.

Key to the Anaheim Family YMCA's success has been its ability to continually meet the changing needs of our community and provide character-building programs to all. Through a volunteer board of directors, more than 300 full and part-time staff, and hundreds of volunteers, mentors and supporters, the Anaheim Family YMCA serves 10,000 youth and families each year.

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



We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.