

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. Today, the Anaheim Family YMCA impacts more than 14,000 people of all ages annually. Thanks to a volunteer board of directors, 350 full and part-time staff, and hundreds of volunteers, mentors and supporters, we are connecting people, building leaders and promoting health and well-being for all.

From infants to active older adults, the Anaheim Family YMCA impacts people of all ages through a variety of character-building programs in more than 50 locations across greater Anaheim. The Anaheim Achieves after-school program serves 5,000 students daily in 46 elementary, junior high and high schools; Youth Sports promotes teamwork, fitness and character; the Children's Station gives our youngest residents ages 8 weeks to 6 years a positive start; Youth & Government builds teens' confidence and leadership; YMCA West healthy lifestyle center improves the well-being of active older adults; and Resident Camps, Day Camps, Aquatics and more provide positive summer outdoor experiences. The YMCA is currently planning centers of wellness in the community to further strengthen the health and well-being for all residents.

Mission: To build and sustain strong kids, strong families and strong communities by putting Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.



Anaheim Family YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.