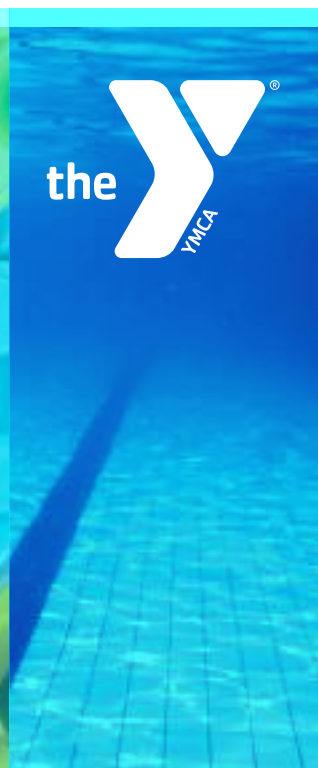




YMCA of Metro Atlanta **2024 ANNUAL REPORT**





IMPACT AT A GLANCE

Dear Friends,

At the Y, everyone has a story. It might begin with a parent dropping off their child at preschool, a teen stepping into a summer job, or a life-changing swim lesson. Thousands of unique stories, connected by a shared truth: the YMCA of Metro Atlanta is a place where everyone belongs.

In 2024, the fourth year of our Y2025 Strategic Plan, your generosity fueled real progress across the communities we serve. Together, we opened doors for children, teens, families, and active older adults, extending our reach into new neighborhoods, lifting up communities, and making sure that no one is left behind.

We expanded our early learning programs, providing hundreds more children with a strong, joy-filled start to their educational journey. Through camp, afterschool, and workforce training, we helped young people grow in confidence, leadership, and purpose. We created space for active older adults to stay strong, build friendships, and remain connected. And we deepened our commitment to well-being, teaching lifesaving swim skills, strengthening bodies and minds, and bringing critical health resources directly to where people live.

Thanks to your partnership, we advanced this work while upholding our promise of fiscal responsibility, ensuring that every dollar is used wisely and positioning our Y for lasting impact in 2025 and beyond.

As we enter the final year of our Y2025 Strategic Plan, we are more focused than ever on creating a future where everyone, regardless of background or zip code, can access the opportunities, relationships, and care they need to thrive.

THE WORLD NEEDS PLACES LIKE THE Y. AND THE Y NEEDS PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

With gratitude,

Lauren Koontz

Lauren Koontz
President & CEO

Jeff Beckham

Jeff Beckham
2023/2024 Board Chair

Clark Dean

Clark Dean
2025/2026 Board Chair



BY THE NUMBERS

43
Total Locations in
Metro Atlanta,
N Georgia, and Augusta

331,000+
People Served
105,785 Children/Teens

10,000
Visitors
Per Day

3.7M
Experiences
Provided Annually

EARLY LEARNING

2,900+
Children Across 19 Locations

HOLISTIC WELLNESS

21,500
Active Older Adults

14,200+
Water Safety Program Participants

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT

560+
Teen Leaders

4,000
Y Explore Afterschool Participants

10,000+
Youth Athletes

7,500+
Day Camp and School Break Campers

4,000+
Overnight Campers

HEALTH EQUITY

307,000
Free Meals Shared
With Our Communities

\$7.1M
Financial Assistance Scholarships =
23,500 Members

4,700+
Volunteers =
26,000+ Hours

EARLY LEARNING

At the YMCA of Metro Atlanta, we believe every child deserves the chance to thrive, no matter their background or zip code. Our early learning programs are designed to nurture brain development and build essential language literacy, social, and problem-solving skills during a child's most critical years. From infant care to preschool and pre-K to family engagement, the Y supports more than 2,900 children each year with safe, high-quality environments where they can learn, grow, and shine.

Two of our most impactful offerings are Head Start and Early Head Start, federally funded programs that support families from pregnancy through age five.

»» THE YMCA HAS BEEN A TRUSTED HEAD START PROVIDER SINCE 1999. IN 2024, WE EXPANDED TO RICHMOND COUNTY, BRINGING THESE LIFE-CHANGING SERVICES TO AN ADDITIONAL 800 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN AUGUSTA.

We know Head Start works: children in the program are more likely to graduate from high school, attend college, and avoid the criminal justice system. In 2024, thanks to access to free, comprehensive childcare, 97% of our Head Start children completed the program ready for kindergarten, and 80% of their parents were employed and empowered to support their families.

BY THE NUMBERS

90%

Kindergarten-ready
in Reading & Language

86%

Received Physical
Health Exams

71%

Received Dental
Exams & Screenings



SPOTLIGHT: JAYCE'S STORY

When Jayce arrived at the Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA Early Learning Center, he was quiet, withdrawn, and hesitant to connect with his classmates, but his teachers saw past the silence. They leaned in, learning what sparked his interest and tailoring their approach to meet his needs.

They focused on building his vocabulary through daily language practice, patiently encouraging him to use his words and engage with others. Slowly, Jayce began to speak up. Then he started to play, share, and smile more often. Today, he confidently expresses how he feels and chooses his favorite classroom activities with ease.

»» JAYCE'S STORY IS A POWERFUL REMINDER OF WHAT'S POSSIBLE WHEN CHILDREN FEEL SEEN AND SUPPORTED AND ARE GIVEN THE TOOLS TO GROW.

PROGRAM DONORS

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YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT

As kids grow, they need more than just a place to be, they need a place to belong. At the YMCA of Metro Atlanta, we create those spaces. Whether it's in afterschool, at camp, or on the job, we surround kids and teens with caring mentors, meaningful experiences, and the tools they need to thrive.

Today's young people are navigating big challenges, academic setbacks, social isolation, and uncertainty about their futures. That's where we step in. As the largest provider of afterschool and summer programs in metro Atlanta, we meet kids and teens where they are with proven programs that build confidence, skills, and connection.

We're also one of the largest teen employers in the region, offering hundreds of young people their first job and a clear path forward. In fact, 88% of our teens say they're exploring career options and can picture what success looks like for them. That's the power of showing up, day after day, with opportunity, support, and belief in what every young person can become.

»»» **WE'RE ONE OF THE LARGEST PROVIDERS OF CARE DURING OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME IN THE STATE!**

BY THE NUMBERS

84%

Discover New
Passions

80%

Grow Their Social-
emotional Strength

77%

Do Better
in School

76%

Make Meaningful
Friendships



SPOTLIGHT: AFTER DARK SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE

At the South DeKalb YMCA, the gym lights stayed on a little later last summer, for all the right reasons. In partnership with the DeKalb County Police Athletic League, the Y hosted the After Dark Summer Basketball League, a seven-week program that provided teens with a safe, structured place to play, learn, and connect.



More than 120 players hit the court, supported by mentorship and mandatory workshops focused on education and career readiness. The impact reached far beyond the game, nearly 1,400 community members came out to cheer, and a dozen teens were employed to help run the program, gaining valuable work experience in the process. For some players, participation even led to college scholarships.

»»» **WHEN THE Y SHOWS UP, DOORS OPEN.**

PROGRAM DONORS

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HOLISTIC WELLNESS

Health and wellness have always been at the heart of the YMCA of Metro Atlanta. For more than 165 years, we've been a trusted leader in helping people build healthier, more connected lives, because when communities are well, everything else is possible.

Our wellness programs are rooted in research and built to meet the most urgent needs of our neighbors, from chronic disease prevention to mental health support. In the wake of a global health crisis and widening disparities, the Y has remained a steady force, expanding access through scholarships, virtual offerings, and partnerships that bring wellness directly into schools and neighborhoods.

Today, thousands of metro Atlanta residents rely on us not just as a place to exercise, but as a place to heal, connect, and thrive.

»» WE'RE CREATING HEALTHIER FUTURES, ONE PERSON, ONE FAMILY, ONE COMMUNITY AT A TIME.

BY THE NUMBERS

93%

Believe the Y is a Resource for Improving Health & Well-being

93%

Report a Greater Sense of Belonging

89%

Report Achieving Their Personal Health & Wellness Goals at the Y



SPOTLIGHT: PAUL'S STORY

When Paul J. Tom was diagnosed with Parkinson's, he didn't let it define him—and neither did the Y. At the Cowart Family YMCA, Paul found more than a place to work out. He found encouragement, support, and a community that pushes him forward.

With the help of our instructors and specialized programs like Knockout Parkinson's Boxing, Movement, and Balance/Stability classes, Paul is now more active than ever. These classes, while designed with Parkinson's in mind, also support individuals managing stroke, MS, and other movement-related conditions. Paul credits the YMCA of Metro Atlanta for helping him feel stronger and more in control of his health.

Each week, we offer more than 3,000 group exercise classes across the metro area, including 300 tailored specifically for active older adults.

»» AT THE Y, WELLNESS ISN'T ONE-SIZE-FITS-ALL: IT'S PERSONAL, AND IT'S POWERED BY OUR COMMUNITY.

PROGRAM DONORS



HEALTH EQUITY

Health outcomes shouldn't be determined by your ZIP code, but in Atlanta, they often are. According to the Atlanta Regional Commission, a child born in Sandy Springs can expect to live 25 years longer than a child born just a few miles away in Bankhead. That kind of disparity is unacceptable, and the YMCA of Metro Atlanta is committed to being part of the solution by showing up in the neighborhoods where the need is greatest and delivering programs that close the gap.

Since 1858, we have been committed to breaking down barriers and meeting people where they are, especially in communities too often overlooked. Today, we continue that work through programs that address real, immediate needs like water safety and drowning prevention, hunger relief, and free dental care and vision screenings.

With the support of donors and partners, we're reaching deeper into neighborhoods with the fewest resources, delivering health and wellness programming that's responsive, inclusive, and grounded in equity.

»» **BECAUSE WE BELIEVE EVERYONE DESERVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE A LONGER, HEALTHIER LIFE—NO MATTER THEIR BACKGROUND, INCOME, OR ZIP CODE.**

BY THE NUMBERS

1,885

Free Swim Lessons

700+

Vision Screenings for Summer Day Campers

5,800

Youth & Teens Received Financial Assistance, Nearly Doubling Access to the Y since 2023



SPOTLIGHT: SAFETY AROUND WATER PROGRAM

Last summer, on pool decks across metro Atlanta, thousands of kids gripped the edge of the pool, nervous but determined. For many it was their first swim lesson, or their first time in a pool. They were part of the Y's Safety Around Water class, a program designed to ensure that every child, no matter their background, has the chance to learn life-saving skills.

In 2024, the YMCA of Metro Atlanta provided 1,885 free swim lessons to children across the city, many in communities where access to swim instruction has historically been out of reach. The goal was not just to teach kids to swim—but to close racial and economic drowning disparities that persist in our city. We didn't take on this challenge alone. As a founding member of the Atlanta Water Safety Coalition, we worked alongside the City of Atlanta Parks & Recreation Department, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, the American Red Cross, and WABE to raise awareness, expand lifeguard training, teach CPR, and advocate for stronger safety policies.

»» **TOGETHER, WE AMPLIFIED A SIMPLE BUT POWERFUL MESSAGE: WATER SAFETY IS NOT A PRIVILEGE, IT'S A RIGHT.**

By the end of the summer, we had kids floating confidently on their backs and paddling across the pool, proud and smiling. And throughout metro Atlanta, kids walked away from their lessons stronger, safer, and ready for whatever comes next.

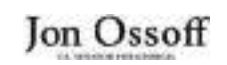
ATLANTA WATER SAFETY COALITION PROGRAM PARTNERS



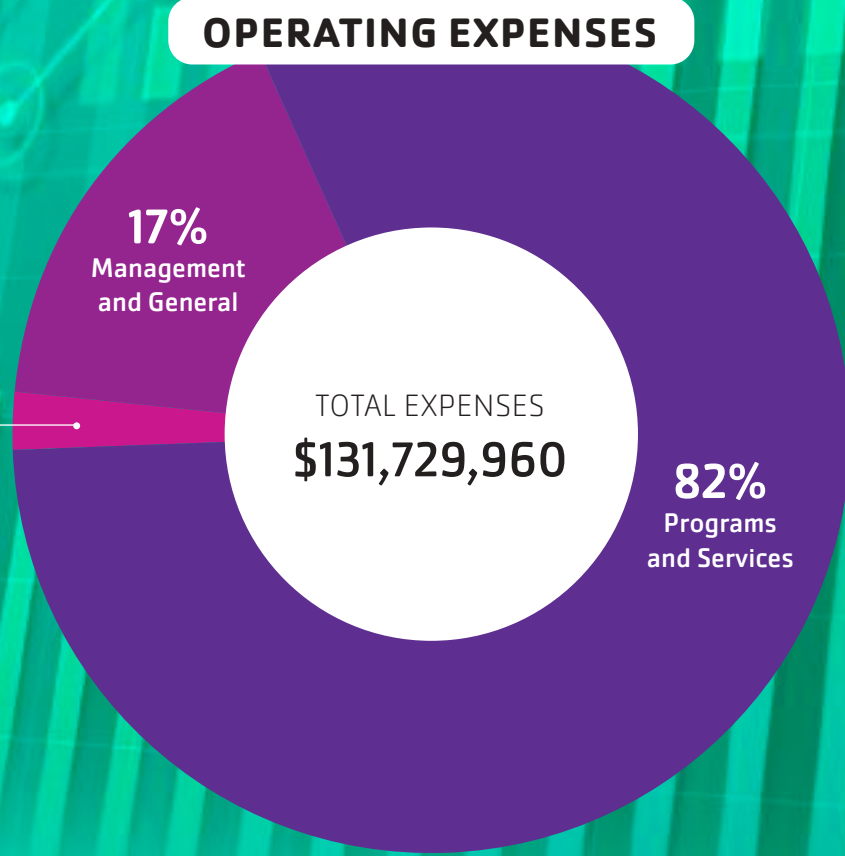
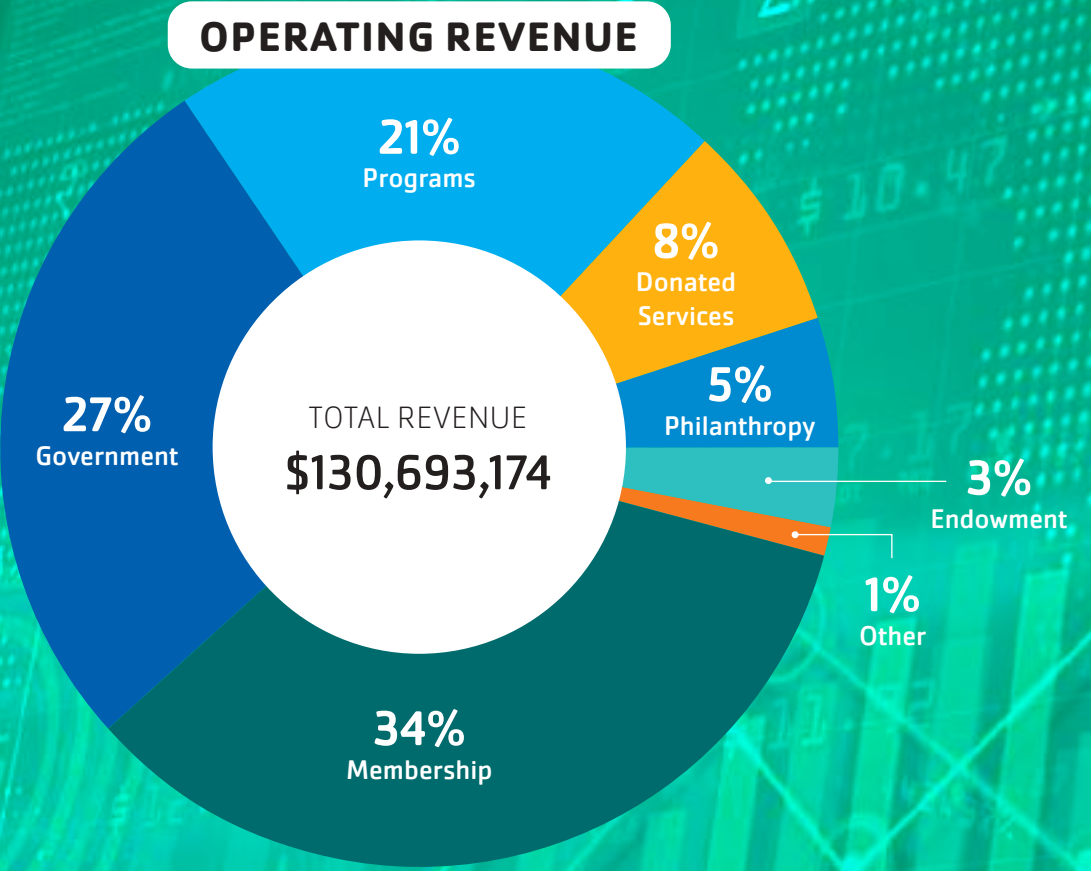
STRONG⁴LIFE



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Tolton Pace
The Villages at Carver Family YMCA

Jacqui Steele
Wade Walker Park Family YMCA

Jackie Knotts
YMCA Camp High Harbour
at Lake Allatoona & Lake Burton

CONNECTED BY COMMUNITY

MEMBERSHIP LOCATIONS & PROGRAM SITES

- 1. Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA
- 2. Arthur M. Blank Family Youth YMCA*
- 3. Carl E. Sanders Family YMCA at Buckhead
- 4. Cherokee Outdoor YMCA*
- 5. Covington Family YMCA
- 6. Cowart Family YMCA
- 7. Decatur Family YMCA
- 8. East Lake Family YMCA
- 9. Ed Isakson/Alpharetta Family YMCA
- 10. Forsyth County Family YMCA
- 11. G. Cecil Pruett Community Center Family YMCA
- 12. J.M. Tull-Gwinnett Family YMCA
- 13. McCleskey-East Cobb Family YMCA
- 14. Northeast Cobb Family YMCA
- 15. Northwest Family YMCA
- 16. Robert D. Fowler Family YMCA
- 17. South Dekalb YMCA*
- 18. Summit Family YMCA
- 19. The Villages at Carver Family YMCA
- 20. Wade Walker Park Family YMCA
- 21. YMCA at Good Sam
- 22. YMCA at Morehouse School of Medicine
- 23. YMCA Youth and Teen Development Center*

*Program site only

OVERNIGHT CAMPS

- 24. YMCA Camp High Harbour at Lake Allatoona
- 25. YMCA Camp High Harbour at Lake Burton

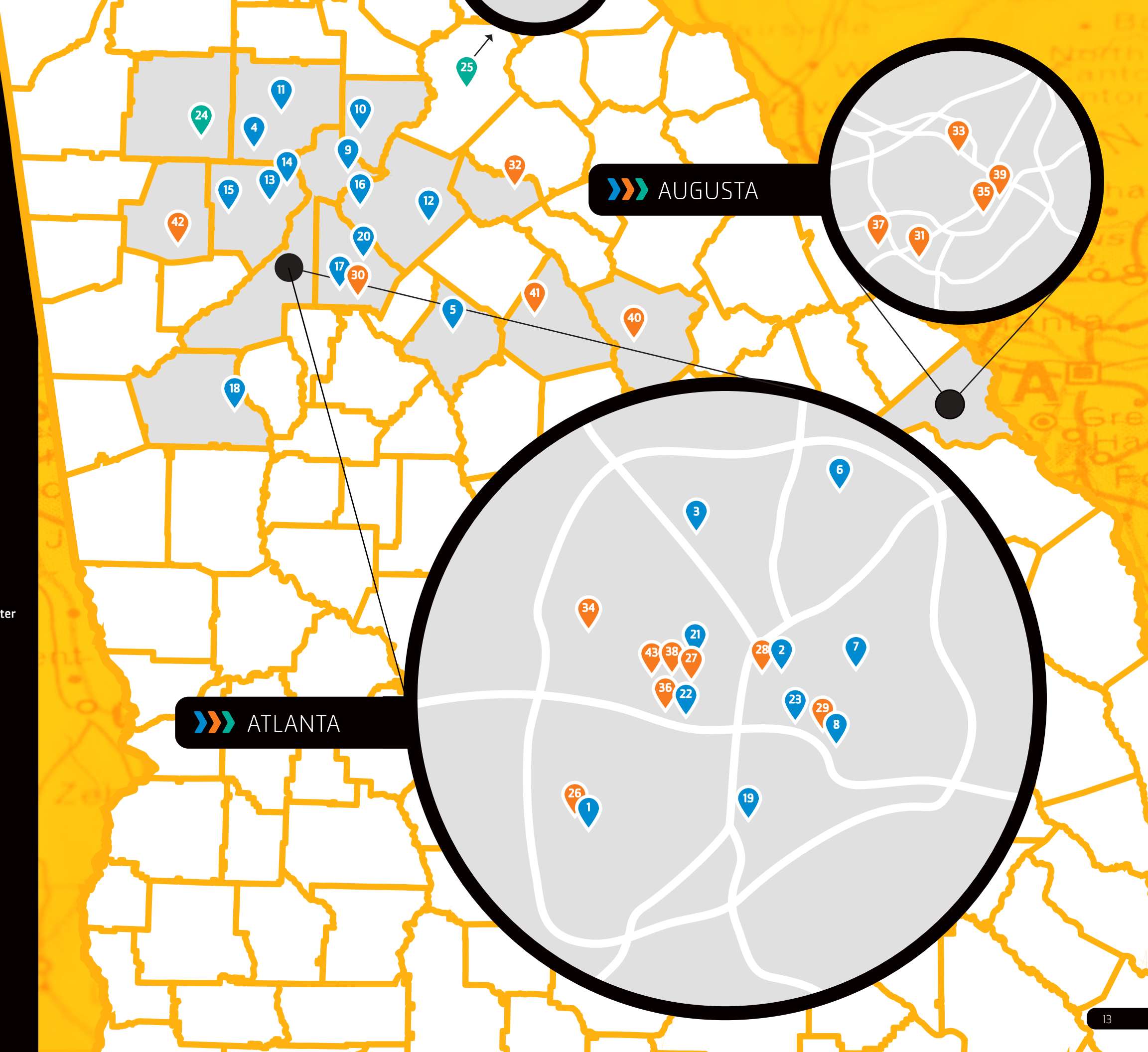
EARLY LEARNING CENTERS

- 26. Andrew and Walter Young Family YMCA Early Learning Center
- 27. Arthur M. Blank Early Learning Center at E.A. Ware
- 28. Arthur M. Blank Family Youth YMCA Early Learning Center
- 29. East Lake Family YMCA Early Learning Academy
- 30. YMCA Academy of South DeKalb Early Learning Center
- 31. YMCA ATC Head Start Early Learning Center**
- 32. YMCA Barrow County Early Learning Center
- 33. YMCA Bert T. Thomas Early Learning Center at Pathways**
- 34. YMCA Chattahoochee Early Learning Center
- 35. YMCA Collins Head Start Early Learning Center**
- 36. YMCA Dean Rusk Early Learning Center
- 37. YMCA Deans Bridge Early Learning Center**
- 38. YMCA Early Learning Center at Hollis Innovation Academy
- 39. YMCA Floyd Head Start Early Learning Center**
- 40. YMCA Greene County Early Learning Center
- 41. YMCA Morgan County Early Learning Center
- 42. YMCA Paulding Early Learning Center
- 43. YMCA Woodson Park Early Learning Center

**Augusta location



Scan code or visit ymcaatlanta.org/locations to view an interactive map of all our sites.





OUR MISSION:

Reflecting its Judeo-Christian heritage, the YMCA of Metro Atlanta is an association of volunteers, members, and staff, open to and serving all, with programs and services which build spirit, mind, and body.

OUR VISION:

To build communities where everyone belongs.

OUR VALUES:

Caring, Honesty, Respect, Responsibility

OUR COMMITMENT STATEMENT:

Our dedication to fostering a welcoming and supportive environment is evident in our team, our members, and our partners. We believe every individual brings unique value to our community. We are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

The YMCA of Metro Atlanta is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that has been impacting lives and strengthening communities for more than 165 years. By providing services and support networks, building bridges between people from all backgrounds and engaging stakeholders at various levels, the Y has maintained its relevance, helping to create stronger, more cohesive communities for all.



YMCA of Metro Atlanta Leadership & Learning Center: 569 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30314 • 404.588.9622



View report online at:
ymcaatlanta.org/annual-report



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