



From all of us at the MDI YMCA, best wishes for a happy and healthy 2023.

MOUNT DESERT ISLAND YMCA

Donor Newsletter January 2023



SWIM MDIY at Age 5! Program Launched Lead Endowment Gift Secured

Here at the MDI YMCA, we had a radical idea. Give every 5-year-old island child a free session of seven swim lessons. Work toward drown-proofing our island kids. Our children will grow up to work and play on the waters of MDI. We found a partner who believes in children, believes in our island community and believes that our YMCA can impact the futures of our children, together. Meet MDI native, Kathy MacLeod.

Kathy started taking swimming lessons at the MDI Y at the young age of 6 which likely inspired her to both teach young children, as well as provide the MDI Y's lead donation for our Swim MDIY at Age 5! program.



Swim MDIY at Age5! Lead donor Kathy MacLeod

Kathy stated that teaching five-year-old children water safety skills and building their confidence around and in the safety of the Y's swimming pool is perfect given especially that Mount Desert Island, including the beautiful Acadia National Park, is surrounded by beloved ocean beaches and freshwater swimming spots. Teaching young children water life-safety skills as a means of preventing drowning is first and foremost. Knowing too, that learning to swim can be fun, and provide a child with a lifetime of a sport that can be more accessible than most other sports. For many years, Kathy's family owned and operated established businesses that supported the Island community such as MacLeod's Variety Store, and the original Bluenose Inn Motel..

How This Program is Going to Succeed

In phase one of this program-specific fundraising, we initially seek funds to build a \$100,000 endowment for the Swim MDIY at Age 5! program. There are around 100 children in our school district this year. Over the near term, we will need an endowment of \$250,000 to make this program sustainable, ensuring that for years and generations to come the children of MDI will get life-saving swim skills at no cost to families. If you are interested in supporting this program, please reach out to Ann Tikkanen at ann@mdiymca.org or with a phone call at (207)288-3511

"It's been really helpful for my kids to learn water safety from someone who knows what they are doing because I'm not a swimmer and if every 5-year-old on the Island gets a free session of swim lessons at the Y, it will impact the safety of our community."

Shannon- MDI YMCA member and mom of two emerging swimmers



FY 2022 Ending September 30, 2022

-We closed out our fiscal year end with \$285,489 total funds raised from all campaigns in order to support our community Y, an increase over the prior year of \$96,254, or 51%.

Each and every program participant at the Y benefits from the generosity of the 445 donors who contributed, ensuring that the Y continues to operate seven days a week, and is open and available to all.

-The current inflationary costs to operate the Y continues to create a disruption and challenge for not just the Y but our neighbors and families and children served by the Y. Your donation makes it possible for all to have access to the Y's health & wellness exercise and youth programs offered.

Upcoming Events

Dodgeball Tournament 3/10-3/11, middle school, high school, and adult divisions.

Easter Egg Hunt & Family Swim 4/8

Earth Day 2023- Campus cleanup and Y participation in Friends of Acadia roadside cleanup. 4/22
volunteers needed

Acadia Half Marathon & 10k 6/4 Races are filling- volunteers and sponsors needed

Healthy Kids Day 6/24
-sponsors needed

FY Starting October 1, 2022

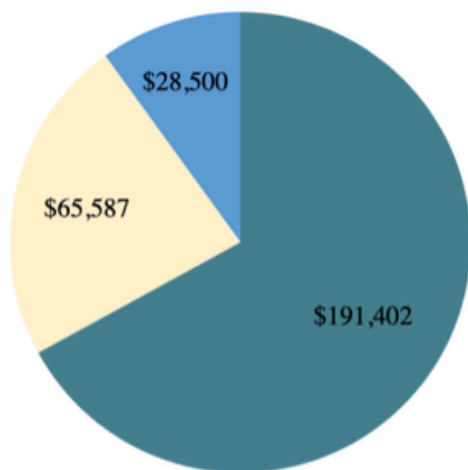
-We are off to a great start! Our Matching Gifts Campaign conducted during the week of Giving Tuesday during the week of Thanksgiving achieved our goal of raising an additional \$50,000 more than the same time last year.

-Our thanks to many new donors, and also to those recurring donors who give each and every year, including those who gave larger donations to leverage the Giving Match!

-Gifts to the Y's Endowment totals \$56,000 for the new year, allowing for program expansion as well as to build a pipeline for future gifts!

-The Y's fundraising goal from all campaigns totals more than \$300,000 for the year, and with your continued help, we can and will continue to deliver a wide variety of healthy living programs, including our rich tradition of Y programs in support of our children.

Mount Desert Island YMCA
Total FY 2021-2022 Fundraising



● Individuals & Families ● Businesses ● Foundations & Trusts

We look forward to a visit from you!