

Dear Friend,

The Westfield Area Y is a community service organization that strives to provide outstanding programs and memberships to all who wish to participate. Each year, hundreds of volunteers raise funds so that those who are economically disadvantaged can enjoy a Y experience. Particular emphasis is placed on providing financial assistance for youth and families who cannot afford to participate in Y programs.

In order for available funds to be used to help as many people in need as possible, each request for financial assistance is evaluated individually. Y financial assistance is based primarily on family hardship, family income and family size.

One of the major goals of the Y is to help as many people as possible enjoy a Y experience. Accordingly, financial assistance cannot be provided to individuals or families for extended periods of time. If you are in need of assistance for long-term services, I encourage you to contact the Department of Social Services.

After we have received your application and all supporting materials, we will contact you within 2-4 weeks. All applications are kept confidential and should be mailed to our Financial Assistance Office. Thank you for your interest in the Y. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Elsasser  
Chief Executive Officer

Westfield Area Y  
220 Clark Street  
Westfield, NJ 07090  
(908) 233-2700  
Fax (908) 232-3306  
www.westfielddynj.org



# WESTFIELD AREA Y FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

**For Y Programs, Memberships  
and Services**



YMCA

We build strong kids,  
strong families, strong communities.

**A community resource serving  
Cranford, Garwood, Mountainside  
and Westfield since 1923.**

## COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS.....

### **Who is eligible to receive financial assistance?**

Individuals and families who cannot pay the program or membership fee and meet specific financial guidelines are eligible to receive financial assistance. The applicant should reside or work in the Westfield Area Y service area which include Cranford, Garwood, Mountainside and Westfield. Applicants must have proof of legal residency or U.S. citizenship.

### **How do I apply?**

1. Complete the Financial Assistance application and return it to the YMCA along with a copy of your most recent Federal Income Tax Form. Include copies for all individuals contributing to the household income. Please include a letter from your current employer verifying employment, your two most recent pay stubs and your last year's W-2.
2. Failure to provide any of the above information or to answer all questions will result in a delayed response or a denial of financial assistance.

### **How will financial assistance awards be determined?**

The Y has a sliding fee scale based on total household income and number of dependents, which assists in determining the amount of support awarded. Extenuating hardships are also taken into consideration. Financial assistance must be approved prior to enrolling in child care and camp programs.

### **How quickly can I expect to receive financial assistance?**

Once you submit the Financial Assistance application and the required documents, the process may take 2-4 weeks. Please be advised that a scholarship is not official until you have received written notification from the Y.

### **How long will the financial assistance continue?**

The need for financial assistance will be reassessed periodically and at least annually for memberships and programs. Child care applies only to the current school year.

### **What is the responsibility of the scholarship recipient?**

The Y expects that the recipient will make timely scheduled payments. Since our funds are limited and there are others in the community in need of financial assistance, we expect to be notified if you no longer need our support or are unable to use the services we provide. Repeat applications may result in a smaller amount of financial assistance awarded.

### **How are scholarships funded?**

The Y raises money through the ongoing work of volunteers and staff. Funds are available thanks to gifts received from individuals, foundations, service clubs and corporations through the Y's Annual Support Campaign. In addition, contributions from the United Way of Westfield and the Y's Endowment Fund help subsidize child care, youth, teen and senior programs.

