



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

PA State Alliance of YMCAs

Advocacy Week 2015

Key Talking Points for Events with Elected Officials

The Y in Pennsylvania

- Pennsylvania has more YMCAs than any state in the nation.
- PA Ys have more than 847,000 members and more than 170,000 participants in Y programs and services.
- PA Ys enjoy the services of over 28,000 volunteers
- PA Ys are the largest provider of child care services in PA
- 1 in 5 children receive subsidized child care valued in excess of \$12.7 million annually.
- In 2013, PA Ys raised \$16 million in contributed support through annual and capital support campaigns, the United Way, bequeaths and legacies.
- ***The YMCA does not deny access to programs and services based on the ability to pay!***

Advancing a Charitable Purpose

- Remind them of the various populations you serve with your programs and services.
- Emphasize how the Y's core values of honesty, integrity, respect and responsibility are paramount in all of your operations.

Donate a Substantial Portion of Your Services

- Provide them with data on how much you receive in contributed support and how much is returned to the community through financial aid and scholarships.
- Share a story of a family or individual who have benefitted from financial aid or scholarships.
- Provide data on the number of volunteer hours you receive each year and, if possible, the estimated monetary value of those services.

Benefits those who are Legitimate Subjects of Charity

- Emphasize how your programs and services are open to anyone and everyone in your community.

Relieves Government of its Burden

- Remind them of any logistical arrangements you have with school districts or municipalities.
- Tell them about programs you offer to supplement those of schools or local governments.
- Tell them about the impact of your child care services and the impact it has on the economy in your community.

Operate Free from Private Profit Motive

- Explain how the contributed revenue you receive is returned to the community.
- Share with them fundraising successes and the benefits accrued to the community.

You may have noticed that these last five (5) headings correspond with the 5-prong test the Supreme Court has applied to determine whether an entity is a purely public charity. The more you can share that provides evidence you meet these criteria, the better understanding your elected officials will have of the impact the Y has in your community!