



# LEADERSHIP FOR A LIFETIME

2023-24 Annual Impact Report



[kyymca.org](https://kyymca.org)

Kentucky YMCA  
Youth Association



# LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Dear Kentucky YMCA Youth Association Community,

As we reflect on the 2023-24 fiscal year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the incredible accomplishments of our students, staff, and volunteers. This year has been a testament to the unwavering dedication of our community to foster leadership, civic engagement, and servant leadership among Kentucky's youth.

The Kentucky Youth Assembly (KYA) and Kentucky United Nations Assembly (KUNA) continued to grow in size and impact, engaging over 6,400 students from 70 counties and 270 schools across the Commonwealth. We hosted seven KYA conferences with over 4,500 participants, and six KUNA conferences with over 3,200 participants. These conferences provided our students with unparalleled opportunities to develop critical thinking, civil discourse, and leadership skills, all while building lasting friendships and expanding their understanding of the world.

Our Y-Corps program remained a cornerstone of our commitment to community service. This year, Y-Corps students raised over \$15,000 for need-based scholarships and completed 3,466 hours of service across 40 communities. The impact of their work has been profound, not only for the communities they served but also for the students themselves, who gained invaluable experience in service and leadership. Leadership development also thrived through our Leadership Training Conference (LTC) and Go For It (GFI) Conference. Students learned to harness their passions and skills to become effective leaders in their communities. The impact of these programs is evident in the 167 and 149 students who attended LTC and GFI, respectively, each walking away with a stronger sense of purpose and a clear vision for their future.

Our Student Y program, which engages middle and high school students in service learning and civic engagement, saw impressive participation this year. With over 4,500 members, these students collectively completed 7,523 service hours, our high school students registered 652 voters, our Campus Ambassadors registered 349 voters and helped complete 502 absentee ballot requests, and we mailed out 46 voter registration tool kits. Their dedication to making a difference is inspiring and speaks volumes about the future of our Commonwealth.

Financially, we faced increased expenses with many vendors, as evidenced by a net revenue loss. However, this is largely due to deferred income for the upcoming fiscal year, and we remain confident in our financial stewardship and the sustainability of our programs. Our commitment to providing need-based scholarships ensured that every student, regardless of financial background, had the opportunity to participate in our programs.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our donors, volunteers, staff, and, most importantly, our students. Your passion, resilience, and commitment to making the world a better place are the true heartbeat of the Kentucky YMCA Youth Association. Together, we are creating a brighter future for our communities and beyond.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission.

With sincere appreciation,  
Amanda Chism, Chief Executive Officer

# KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY

## KYA - Events Summary

The KYA 2023 season saw some of our favorite traditions, including debate at the Capitol, lunch breaks at Claudia Sanders Dinner House, and more student leadership than ever! We hosted seven conferences with 4,500+ participants, including 198 students in leadership positions. Students this year were able to build friendships while dancing at the silent disco, practice civil discourse while participating in conference programs, learn critical thinking skills through conference preparations & expanded their social network through interactions with teens across the Commonwealth.



"Wow. I cannot even put into words how blown away I am by this conference. I'm going to be honest. I was really scared for this year. As the conference began to draw near, I was afraid that it wouldn't be the same or that I would let someone down. However the energy, care, and passion of this group of people has inspired me. The perseverance and strength I have seen have reminded me that what ties this community together is passion, and an inherent desire to make this world a better place. The passion of the other presiding officers up here with me has amazed and enlightened me. Thank you guys for everything."

Arden Ensor, KYA Participant 2023

**\$65,542**

Need-Based Scholarships

**2,204**

Middle School Participants

**2,816**

High School Participants

**510**

Advisor Participants

**11**

Volunteers

**60**

Presiding Officers

**443**

Bills Submitted

**4**

Specialized Programs

**81**

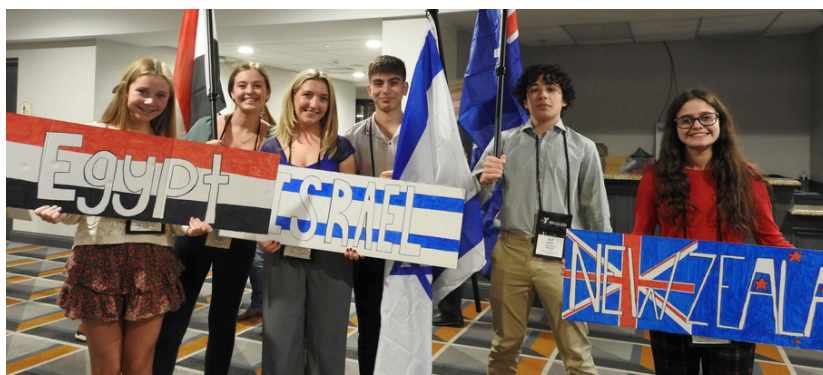
Supporting Officers



# KENTUCKY UNITED NATIONS ASSEMBLY

## KUNA - March 2024 Events Summary

The KUNA 2024 season continued to be our students' favorite trip around the world! We hosted 6 conferences with 3,200+ participants, including 189 students in leadership positions. KUNA students expanded their world view, gained empathy from connecting and learning about a variety of countries, built lasting friendships, and did it all in a safe, fun to learn environment! They were able to have meaningful conversations around global affairs, and practice professional skills like public speaking, conflict management, and professionalism.



**\$46,202**

Need-Based Scholarships

**1,361**

Middle School Participants

**2,124**

High School Participants

**373**

Advisor Participants

**11**

Volunteers

**38**

Presiding Officers

**242**

Resolutions Submitted

**4**

Specialized Programs

**76**

Supporting Officers

# Y- CORPS 2023

For 26 years, Y-students have been placed at the intersection of community, culture, and need through the Y-Corps program. This movement has transformed the lives of thousands of Kentucky teens and hundreds of communities, demonstrating our program motto that "work is love made visible."

The journey begins with the Y-Corps Institute, where students learn about fundraising and what it takes to make a difference in their communities. They then raise funds for KY YMCA Needs-Based Scholarships. At the end of the summer, students can choose to participate in one of two impactful programs:

- **Service to the Commonwealth**
  - A week-long service experience around Kentucky, where students provide service to local nonprofit organizations while gaining pride in the beautiful culture of the Commonwealth.
- **Service to the South**
  - A week-long service experience taking high school students around the southern states where they learn about various communities and spend time providing service to those in need.

This experience not only enriches the students but also strengthens the communities they serve.

**\$15,638**

raised by Y-Corps  
Students

**1,534**

scholarships funded by  
Y-Corps student  
fundraising

**3,466**

hours of service  
completed throughout  
the year

**40**

communities served by  
Y-Corps teams





# CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



## Leadership Training Conference 2023

Location: Lindsey Wilson College

Students spent the weekend learning how to be effective community participants & gaining critical leadership skills to take back to their home communities with them.

167  
Attendees

29  
Volunteers



## Go For It Conference 2023

Location: Camp Loucon

Students had a unforgettable weekend learning how they can identify both their passions & personal skills, then utilize them to set goals for a future of self-defined success.

149  
Attendees

21  
Volunteers



# \$12,075

Need-based scholarships awarded to LTC & GFI attendees

# STUDENT Y

Student Y is a student-led program for middle and high school students (grades 6-12) interested in making an impact in local and global communities. Student Y Chapters are a way for your school or community organization to engage in meaningful service learning projects throughout the school year, and develop into compassionate community leaders. Student Y promotes youth development, social responsibility, and healthy living through: Civic Engagement, Servant Leadership, and Character Development.

Members join local Chapters, attend Student Y programs, receive discounts on other Y programs, and gain access to exclusive merchandise. Student Y Chapters are encouraged to organize voter registration drives and to coordinate service outreach projects.



**4,541**  
Student Y Members

**7,523**  
Service hours completed

**1,001**  
people were registered to vote by our  
High School and Campus Ambassadors

**502**  
people filled out absentee ballots with  
help from our Campus Ambassadors

“A lot of organizations will create leaders, but the focus of the Y is serving other people first. And using any power you acquire to help other people and not putting yourself first. That is really important to me.”

Shreeya Auroa | Student Y Participant

# 2023 – 2024 Financial Report

## Gross Revenue \$2,743,910

Programs	\$2,600,810
Contributions	\$143,099
Individual Donors	\$82,225
Grants, Foundations & Corporate Partnerships	\$55,304

## Expenses \$3,068,077

Indirect Program	\$1,018,977
Direct Program	\$2,021,691

Net Revenue -\$324,168\* (due to deferred income for FY 2024-25)

# 2023 – 2024 Leadership

<b>Board of Directors Officers</b>	Amy Simpson – Board Chair Emily Lepping – Vice Chair Allison Mefford – Secretary	Brad Hayes – Treasurer & Finance Chair David Byerman – Governance Chair Kerri Richardson – Development Chair	
<b>Board of Directors</b>	Angela Becerra Amy Craig Chris Reitz Bryan Ernstberger Bryan Flachbart Steve Gold	Christopher Head F. Ryan Keith Bradley Hayes Emily Lepping Allison Mefford	David Perlow Robert Rich Chris Mitchell
<b>Student Directors</b>	Azitta Akrami Arushi Bansal	Conner Brumley Cross Dutton	Ada Gibson Minhal Nazeer Anna Robinson
<b>Advisory Council</b>	Tyler Boyle Barton Christmas	Caroline Cowan Grace Flaherty	Emerson Harned Elizabeth Tully Jacqueline Thompson Maria Wimsatt
<b>Board of Overseers</b>	Maria Rapin – Chair	Luke Boyett Greg Palmer	Chad Carlton Chip Polston Gary McCullom
<b>Executive Director</b>	Amanda Chism		



# Thank you, Donors!

## \$10,000+

Our People Our Vote  
Honorable Order of the  
Kentucky Colonels  
Riney Family Charitable Fund

## \$5,000+

Luke Boyett  
Kentucky State Treasurer  
Maria Rapin  
Mission Square Bridgebuilding  
United Way of the Bluegrass

## \$2,500 – \$4,999

Target  
Greg Palmer  
Fayette County Bar Foundation  
CVS Health Foundation  
Elizabeth S. Tully  
Gatton Academy

## \$1,000 – \$2,499

Gary McCullum  
Kerri Richardson Cheng  
Seattle Foundation  
Thomas B and Jo Logan Family  
Foundation  
University of Kentucky Martin  
Steven Gold  
Emily Lepping  
Chip Polston  
LG&E and KU  
American Online  
Global Initiative Fund  
Amanda & Chad Chism  
David & Tressie Hird  
Chuck & Robin Carroll  
Bluegrass Hospitality Group  
David Byerman  
Bradley Hayes  
Maria Wimsatt  
McCarthy Strategic Solutions  
Oscarware  
Robert Rich

## \$500 – \$999

Andrew Flynn  
Susan Pile  
CAF America  
Kenesha Brooks  
Christopher Head  
Samuel Leist  
Aleshea Martin  
Amy Simpson  
Jim Turner  
Barton Christmas  
Britta Carlson Sessums  
James Caldwell  
Ann Hilary Heston  
Rebecca Joslin  
Andrew Carroll  
Judy Simpson  
First Southern Bank  
JYB III Group  
Rosenbluth Family Charitable  
Foundation  
Josh Hardesty

## \$100 – \$499

Elizabeth Malcom  
Kelly Busick  
Finn Strand  
Lisa Addington  
Karen Mackey  
Tracie Colvin  
Jan & Rick Davis  
Anthony Northington  
Essence Marzette  
Kroger  
Ashly Koblitz  
Brett & Paul Friedman  
Tracy jo Ingram  
Michelle Sumrall  
Jarrod Gabbard  
Anonymous

Brianna O'Daniel  
David Owen  
Anthony Smith  
Notre Dame Academy  
Blue Grass Community  
Foundation, Giving Program  
Kevin Johnson  
Julie Corbett  
Tammi Poole  
Matthew Wiedmeyer  
John Y Brown III  
Monica Liban  
Leslie Dolliver  
Greg Gibson  
Shelly Gibson  
Mac Ingram

Joyce Schipke  
Marvin Turner  
Charles Schwab  
Hank Vickers  
Katherine Nicholas  
Terri Burgan  
Heather Ray  
Give Lively Foundation  
Robert J Holtzman  
Karen Lowhurst  
Network for Good  
Robert Abell  
Anonymous  
Marlynn Cohen  
Corrie Harris  
Anonymous

# Thank you, Donors!

\$1 - \$99

Elizabeth A Stone  
Donnie Colvin  
Bryan Flaherty  
Elinor Troutt  
Bridget Joslin  
Neil Cohen  
Terry Brownson  
Tom Strunk  
Lauryl Leksrisawat  
Nina Shaw  
Waitman Taylor  
Kasey Anderson  
Rachel Belin  
Amber Halloran  
Rachel Adkins  
Nancy Forsha  
Lorraine Goergen  
Olivia Griffin  
Emilie Herzig  
Lisa Higgason  
Betty Johnson  
Marilyn Keith  
Patricia L Mackey  
Eileen M Terril  
Virginia Mclver  
Allison Mefford  
Jill Napier  
Todd Palumbo  
John Richard  
Jenny Rockwell  
Jane Saint  
Robb Taylor  
Alison Tyler  
Martha Vickers  
Susan W Kennedy  
Payton Billiter  
Karen Acuff  
Simona Bertacco  
Brandie Blanton  
Abbey Bowe  
Grace Flaherty  
Jill Force  
Matthew Goergen  
William Ketcherside  
April LaFramboise  
Rob Lewis  
Ann Olsen  
Samantha Palmer

Stephanie Parker  
Madeline Reno  
Melissa Rogers  
Richard Schindler  
Rebecca Sights  
Matthew Simpson  
Becky Sumrall  
Nycole Thomas  
Rob Weber  
Boamatches Bank America  
Delbert Billiter  
Katie Newton  
EDI Payment America  
FrontStream  
Jack Heppermann  
Sean Gallagher  
Gina Guarino  
Fran Carrico  
Hunter Coady  
Derek Summerville  
Janet Baugh  
Marilyn Barnes  
Rylie Bond  
Sara Bowman  
Christen Brown  
Jacqueline Carroll  
Abbey Costello  
Donna Fogle  
Robert Gibson  
Mary Goodman  
David Guarino  
Lucy Hammet  
Autumn Hornsby  
Kimberly Hurt  
Karen Money  
Shelby Murphy  
Susan Peterson  
Lisa Rackovan  
Clarke Sights  
Mary Sorensen  
Starla Whitaker  
Lila Jane Burke  
Karen Brandenburg  
Clare Doyle  
Beth Dugan  
Bryan Edman  
John Flanagan  
Lauren Gersten

Jennifer Goodman  
Genie Graf  
Andy Hanner  
Peggy Hatter  
Amy M Dozer  
Pamela McQueen  
Christine Messerschmidt  
Sean Peterson  
Elisabeth Reagan  
Courtney Scott  
Anthony Shade  
Ann Sullivan  
Stephanie Thompson  
Brenda Trimmer  
William Wade  
Belinda White  
Dottie Tackett  
Tom Elfers  
Bailey Bullock  
Mimi Chiu  
Milana Elkins  
Reese Holtzman  
Forest Clevenger  
Baxter Keith  
Emilee McCubbins  
Matt Springer  
Blair Koorsen  
Jacob Kuerzi  
Brooklyn Miller  
Nicole Hankins  
Kerby Gilstrap  
Caroline Pringle  
Chloe Nunn  
Harper Warrell  
Olivia Bauer  
Aly Goldberg  
Brodie Ross

## Thank You to All Who Fundraised on Behalf of KY YMCA

F Ryan Keith  
Allison Mefford  
Amy Simpson

Brad Hayes  
David Byerman  
Josh Hardesty

Kelly Busick  
Amy Craig  
Amanda Chism

## Thank you to the families who have created scholarship funds in memory of loved ones who have passed

Melanie Carroll Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Anthony Flaherty Scholarship

## Diversity & Inclusion

The Kentucky YMCA Youth Association is an antiracist, multicultural organization. We enthusiastically welcome persons of every ability, age, background, ethnicity, faith/religion, gender expression/gender identity, income, nationality, race, sex, or sexual orientation. The Kentucky YMCA Youth Association believes that in a beautifully diverse world, we are stronger when we are inclusive and when everyone has an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

## Kentucky YMCA Mission Statement

The mission of the Kentucky YMCA Youth Association is to develop engaged citizens and servant leaders, inspired to affect change in their school, community, Commonwealth, nation, and world. Through experiential learning, service, and community activism, the Kentucky YMCA Youth Association fosters critical thinking, leadership, and social responsibility in teens.

“The students are invested in everything we do – even if it doesn't look how we thought it would look. That team didn't let the virtual conference get them down in 2021, they took it as an opportunity to engage our students in a different way. Our students love these programs and always show up.”

Rianna Ayala | Director of Civic Engagement