



The YMCA of Metropolitan Lansing stands by its mission to improve the quality of life for children, adults and families through programs that develop spirit, mind, and body for all. The following impact story from one of the Ingham County Circuit Court Juvenile Court Officers highlights how the YMCA has impacted this entire family.

This family of eight has been working with the Ingham County Family Treatment Court. The family consists of the mother, father and their six minor children ranging from one year to fourteen. The entire family previously was living in a relative's basement in Stockbridge, MI. The conditions were hazardous and inhabitable, and the family recently made a move to the Homeless Angel's Family Shelter in Lansing, MI. This was traumatic for the family, especially changes in schools for the children. It has been a positive move for them as the mother is now closer to her service providers, which allows her to be more consistent with treatment. A priority for the kids during the summer is to be able to participate in positive and safe activities. The Westside YMCA is within walking distance of the shelter. Staff at the Y recognized their homeless situation, and the family was approved for a 6-month family membership for \$30 thanks to scholarship monies available through the YMCA's Annual Campaign. The Court system was also able to assist with the fee through funding from their Children's Benefit Fund which covered the cost of the membership for the family. The family is excited about the opportunities at the Y, and they are looking forward to utilizing the amenities available for the entire family. The mother states, "without the Y membership these children would be cooped up in their rooms with limited activities." The case worker indicates that "she is so happy to be collaborating with the team at the Westside YMCA and values the manner in which the Y is improving the quality of living for this family."

This is just one example of how gifts given to the YMCA's Annual Campaign can change the lives of an entire family. Consider giving a gift today by going online at www.lansingymca.org/give.

