



Demakes Family YMCA Campus
2025-26 Capital Campaign

Fields of Opportunity

Open Spaces Open Doors to Achievement





Demakes Family YMCA Campus Urban Green Spaces Project



Project Purpose

The Demakes Family YMCA is launching the **Fields of Opportunity** capital campaign to fund the development of state-of-the-art outdoor spaces in Lynn. This project aims to provide a safe, accessible, and high-quality environment for youth to engage in physical activity, develop teamwork skills, and strengthen community connections. With a growing demand for urban green spaces, these open areas will serve as a vital resource to assist the YMCA in supporting surrounding schools, neighborhoods, and the city of Lynn at-large.

2024 Impact of the YMCA of Metro North



\$2,400,000
Financial
assistance provided



25,000
Youth and teens
accessed the YMCA



112,000
Healthy meals
served



69,000
People participated in
YMCA activities last year





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Fields of Opportunity

Current Outdoor Spaces

- ✓ 8,000 square foot rooftop garden
- ✓ Y Academy Early Learning playground
- ✓ Youth Center afterschool playground
- ✓ Garden beds and courtyard

Proposed Development

- ✓ Turf outdoor athletic field
- ✓ Outdoor basketball court
- ✓ New walkway surrounded by garden beds
- ✓ Additional 38 parking spaces





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Benefits of Outdoor Spaces for Youth



Physical

Outdoor play decreases obesity risks and improves cardiovascular health.



Social Emotional

Team sports foster teamwork, leadership, and resilience.



Academic

Children who engage in outdoor play exhibit improved focus in academic settings and demonstrate better behavior in school.



Community

Accessible sports facilities create safe spaces for youth to connect and build relationships.



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Demand for Green Spaces in Urban Areas: Many children in cities lack safe, accessible outdoor areas to engage in unstructured play and physical activity, leading to reduced opportunities for exercise and socialization.

Physical and Mental Health Benefits: Outdoor play has been proven to lower stress, boost mood, and improve overall mental well-being. Exposure to nature and fresh air helps children develop resilience and reduces anxiety and depression.

Combatting Sedentary Lifestyles: With screen time increasing, outdoor spaces encourage kids to stay active, enhancing cardiovascular health and decreasing the risk of obesity. Thirty-five percent of children in Essex County are categorized as obese.

Enhancing Social Development: Playgrounds and recreational areas provide opportunities for children to develop social skills, teamwork, and problem-solving abilities.

The Need for More Urban Outdoor Space





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Outdoor Spaces Concept

Development Plan

- Phase One: Planning, permitting, and initial fundraising (Months 1-6)
- Phase Two: Community outreach and partnerships (Months 4-10)
- Phase Three: Construction begins (Months 10-15)
- Phase Four: Completion and Grand Opening (anticipated opening fall 2026)





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Naming Opportunities and Donor Recognition



Athletic Field Naming

\$1,000,000

Basketball Court

\$750,000

Playground

\$250,000

Equipment
Station

\$200,000

Walkway

\$150,000

Bleachers

\$50,000

Benches

\$10,000





For more information, contact:
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