



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

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## **Tampa YMCA Offers Kids a Chance to Learn and Explore at Camp**

**Tampa, FL (May 4, 2015)** – This summer, the [Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) camp program is offering kids an enriching, learning experience to help them get *more* out of summer break – more friendships, more accomplishments and more belonging. Through a mix of fun and educational activities aimed at improving well-being, kids will experience new adventures, learn and master new skills, share and trade interests with friends, exchanging plenty of high-fives along the way.

Working with independent impact measurement experts, the Y recently surveyed nearly 40,000 parents and caregivers with kids enrolled in camp programs. Ninety-one percent of parents/caregivers said they agreed Y summer camp helped kids make new friends. In addition, 81 percent said they agreed the program helped their kids discover what they can achieve, while 86 percent agreed their child felt a sense of belonging at their Y camp.

“With school out during the summer, many kids don’t get enough physical activity or learning—a critical gap the Y is addressing,” says Communications Director Lalita Llerena. “In Y summer camp, kids are in a safe environment with nurturing adults where they feel welcome, develop character and explore new talents and interests to reach their potential. We want to ensure kids in our camp programs go home with so much excitement for all they’ve accomplished and enjoyed that they can’t wait to come back the next day.”

The Y’s summer camp programs focus on impacting the social-emotional, cognitive and physical development of all kids. In addition to traditional day camp with theme weeks, the Tampa Y offers a variety of specialty camps including, but not limited to: sports, gymnastics, aquatics, cheer, science, math, cooking and adaptive camp for youth with special physical and mental needs. The Y also offers EPIC (Encouraging People to Impact the Community) Camp for teens and pre-teens.

To ensure all children have the chance to experience camp, the Y offers financial assistance to those in need. To learn more about the Tampa YMCA’s summer camp programs, visit [www.tampaymca.org](http://www.tampaymca.org).

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### **About the Tampa Y**

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is one of the area’s leading nonprofits, strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 19 facilities engage more than 160,000 men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve our community’s health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The Tampa Y has long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. [www.tampaymca.org](http://www.tampaymca.org)