

ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN 2025

Putting Our Strategic Plan into Action

The Annual Operating Plan is the blueprint for implementing the operational actions of our 2024–2028 Strategic Plan. It is structured around our three "YES" priorities, representing key focus areas for our efforts:

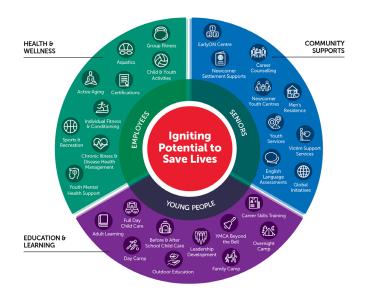
- Young People: Our Legacy and Future
- **Employees:** Our Source of Sustainable Energy
- Seniors: Our Commitment to Lifelong Health

By Following our Annual Operating Plan, we continue to strengthen our programs, foster connection, and promote healthy living across the region.

A new key element of the plan is our **Theories of Action**, which explain how and why specific actions will lead to the outcomes we seek. These frameworks help us stay intentional, focused, and ready to adapt as we measure success and refine our programs.

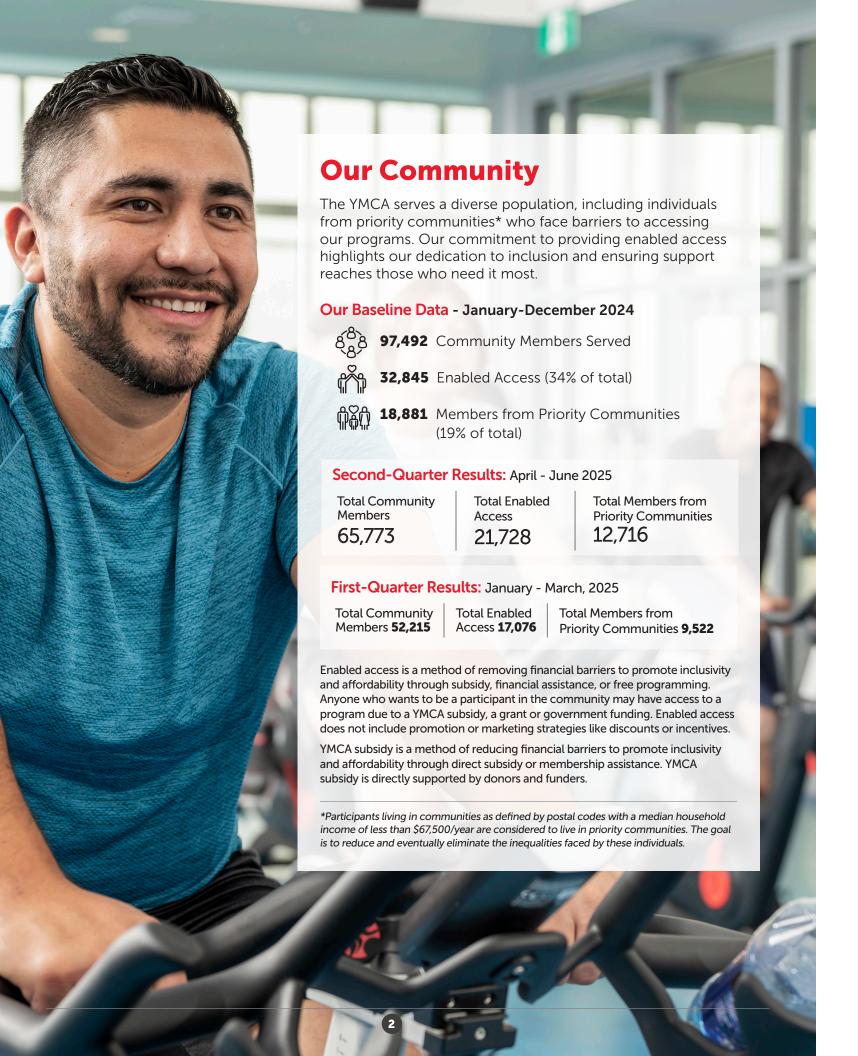
Measuring Impact

In 2025, we are committed to measuring participation outputs and **three key outcomes:** resilience in young people, recognition and overall health scores in employees, and a sense of belonging among seniors. These focus areas reflect our mission to empower individuals and foster inclusive, thriving communities.



Our Ecosystem of Offerings

The YMCA provides a wide range of services, from health and wellness programs to youth development initiatives and senior engagement activities. While we support all our offerings, this year's Annual Operating Plan spotlights key initiatives that align with our strategic priorities for maximum community impact.





PRIORITY #1: YOUNG PEOPLE OUR LEGACY AND FUTURE

Goal: Child and Youth development, focused on those in priority communities.

Theory of Action #1:

IF we combine youth feedback and program data to inform our programs,

THEN we will better serve a greater number of young people, including those in priority communities.

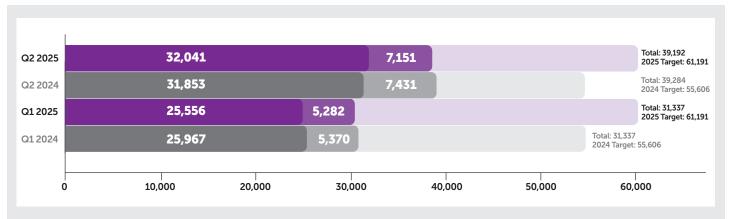
STRATEGIES

- Participant Feedback Collection: Gather feedback from youth participating in programs.
- Track and Analyze Program Data: Continuously collect and analyze data to identify areas for improvement.
- Implement a Continuous Improvement Process: Regularly review and refine programs based on the feedback and data collected.



Second-Quarter Results: January - June 2025

- 2025 Young People Served (0-29)
- 2025 Young People Served From Priority Communities (0-29)
- 2024 Young People Served (0-29)
- **2024** Young People Served From Priority Communities (0-29)







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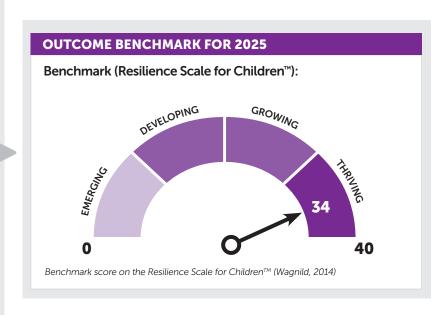
Theory of Action #2:

IF we leverage the YMCA HBB ecosystem where young people can develop supportive relationships,

THEN they will build resilience through healthy minds and habits.

STRATEGIES

- After-School Academic and Social Support: Deliver the Beyond the Bell program
- Career and Life-skill
 Development: Deliver Youth
 Employment & Skills Training
 programs
- Aquatic Skills and Safety Training:
 Offer swimming lessons and advanced aquatics
- Leadership Development:
 Deliver Camp Wanakita Student
 Counsellor (SC) Leadership
 Program



Resilience is the capacity of youth to not only bounce back from challenges but to also learn, grow stronger and thrive because of those challenges.



PRIORITY #1: YOUNG PEOPLE OUR LEGACY AND FUTURE

Goal: Child and Youth development, focused on those in priority communities.

Implementation Updates: January - June 2025

In Q2, efforts concentrated on the implementation of programs and data collection. The primary objective is to leverage the YMCA HBB ecosystem to help young people develop supportive relationships and build resilience through healthy minds and habits.

Data collection status for key programs is as follows:

| PROGRAMS | DATA COLLECTION |
|---|--|
| Beyond the Bell | Starting Fall 2025 |
| Youth Employment & Skills Training Programs | In progress: data collected from 2 out of 4 cohorts |
| Swimming Lessons | In progress: data collected from 2 out of 4 branches |
| YMCA Wanakita Student Counsellor Leadership Program | Completed: data collected from all 4 cohorts |

As of this reporting period, data collection efforts are still in progress for the programs outlined above. To date, data has been collected from over 260 participants. These early response numbers are an encouraging sign of participant engagement and will continue to grow as additional responses are gathered in Q3 and Q4.







PRIORITY #2: EMPLOYEESOUR SOURCE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Goal: Positive Leadership and Culture.

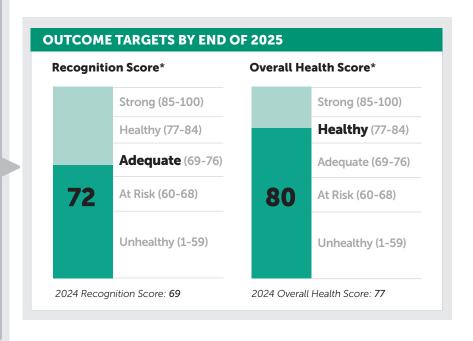
Theory of Action:

IF we actively foster a culture of recognition where employees feel valued and appreciated for their contributions,

THEN this will lead to improvements in employee recognition score and the overall organizational health score.

STRATEGIES

- Employee Service Awards Enhancement: Strengthen the employee service awards program.
- Leadership Recognition
 Toolkit: Develop and implement a People Leader Recognition Toolkit.
- Compensation Review: Review and update the compensation structure and philosophy.
- Learning and Leadership
 Development: Provide learning
 and development opportunities
 for people leaders.



^{*}The Recognition and Overall Health scores are based on the results from the YMCA WorkWell Employee Experience Insights Survey. All employees are invited to complete this survey.



PRIORITY #2: EMPLOYEESOUR SOURCE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

Goal: Positive Leadership and Culture.

Implementation Updates: January - June 2025

Q2 activities focused on the rollout of the compensation review structure and ongoing implementation of leadership development opportunities. Progress on key strategies includes:

| PROGRAMS | IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS |
|--|--|
| Employee Service Awards Enhancement | Employee milestone event occurred in March 2025. Planning for next Employee Milestone event and continuing to explore different possible recognition programs. |
| Leadership Recognition Toolkit | Launching in September |
| Compensation Review | Phase 1 launched in June |
| Learning and Leadership Development | Initial offerings launched |

In Q2, we conducted an Employee Voice Pulse Check focused on recognition. Staff were invited to respond to questions about both giving and receiving recognition in the workplace, including the recognition question used to track our outcome indicator.

We received 131 responses, and the overall recognition score was 65, which falls within the "Adequate" range. These results provide valuable insight as we continue to build a culture of appreciation and acknowledgment across the organization.

A second pulse check is planned for Q3, and which will help us track progress and further inform our efforts.







PRIORITY #3: SENIORS OUR COMMITMENT TO LIFELONG HEALTH

Goal: Active Aging.

Theory of Action #1:

IF we use data on the needs and interests of seniors and program data to improve our programs,

STRATEGIES

- Participant Feedback Collection: Gather feedback from seniors participating in
- Track and Analyze Program Data: Continuously collect and analyze data to identify areas for improvement.
- Implement a Continuous Improvement **Process:** Regularly review and refine programs based on the feedback and data collected.

THEN we will better serve a greater number of seniors, including those in priority communities.



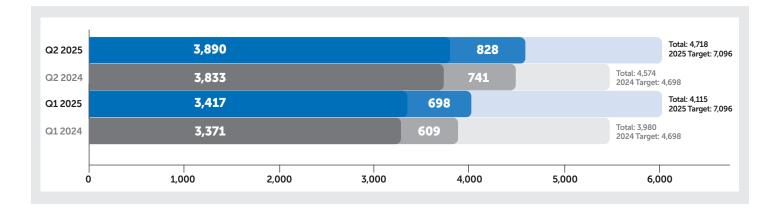
Second-Quarter Results: January - June 2025



2025 Seniors Served From Priority Communities (65+)

2024 Seniors Served (65+)

2024 Seniors Served From Priority Communities (65+)



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Goal: Active Aging.

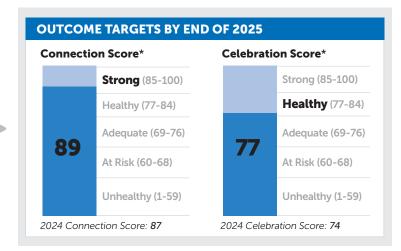
Theory of Action #2:

IF we offer programs that promote the well-being of seniors and create opportunities for them to contribute to the YMCA HBB ecosystem,

THEN they will experience an increased sense of belonging.

STRATEGIES

- Health and Fitness Programs: To promote physical well-being and social interaction.
- Balance+: A community exercise initiative focusing on strength, balance, flexibility, and endurance.
- Aquafit Classes: To provide lowimpact, water-based exercise options.
- Optimal Fitness: A research program focusing on optimizing independence, mobility and an active lifestyle.
- GERAS Dance: A dance style program designed for individuals with limited mobility or memory.



Sense of belonging is the experience of feeling connected to and valued within the Y community.

*The Connection and Celebration scores are based on the results from the YMCA WorkWell Members Experience Insights Survey and represent those members who identify as being 60+ years old. All members are invited to complete this survey.

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Goal: Active Aging.

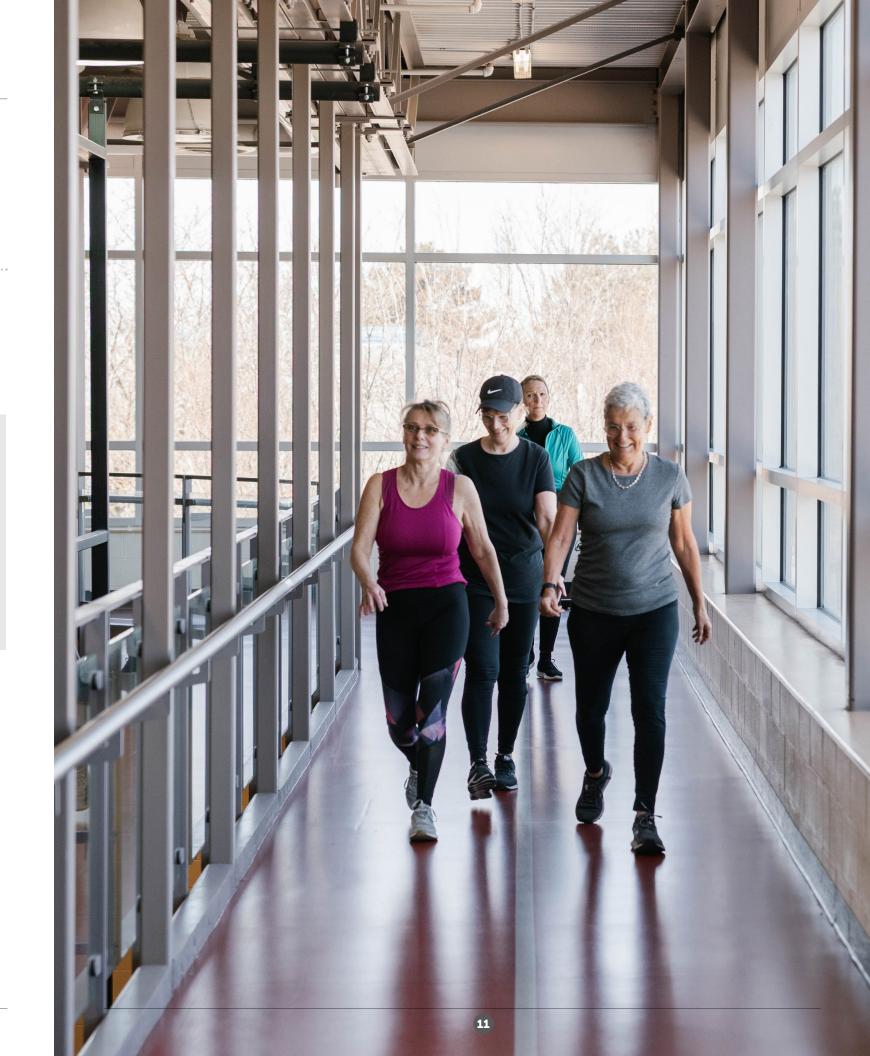
Implementation Updates: January - June 2025

Q2 efforts focused on offering programs that promote well-being and creating opportunities for contribution to the YMCA HBB ecosystem, with the goal of increasing their sense of belonging.

The status of data collection for programs supporting this theory is as follows:

| PROGRAMS | DATA COLLECTION |
|------------------------------|---|
| Health and Fitness Programs | Launching in November |
| Balance + | Starting in Fall 2025 |
| Aquafit Classes | In progress: data collected from 2 out of 4 branches |
| Optimal Fitness | In progress in collaboration with Hamilton Health Sciences |
| GERAS Dance/Cognitive Groove | In progress in collaboration with GERAS Centre for Aging Research |

As of this reporting period, data collection efforts are still in progress for the programs outlined above. To date, data has been collected from over 300 participants. These early response numbers are an encouraging sign of participant engagement and will continue to grow as additional responses are gathered in Q3 and Q4.



OUR VISION - Creating a vibrant and healthy community where everyone thrives, igniting their fullest potential.

OUR MISSION - The YMCA of Hamilton|Burlington|Brantford is a charitable organization that creates spaces to belong and promotes healthy living for people at all stages of life.

OUR VALUES - Caring. Honesty. Inclusion. Respect. Responsibility.

YMCAHBB.CA

Charitable Registration #10808 3825 RR0001





GET INVOLVED

The YMCA relies on the financial support of donors and funders who share our vision.

The Y Saves Lives.

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