Story of Ashanti and Serinity

Third grader Serinity Rondaw Johnson wasn’t fond of sports, but that was before she became involved with the Ypsilanti After School program and joined a basketball team. Now her whole family is involved, and they are starting to see the benefits of a more active lifestyle.

Previously, Serinity would come home from school and have nothing to do. Now, because of her involvement with the Y, after school time is filled with basketball, yoga or flag football, depending on the season. It’s true that Serinity has slimmed down as a result of all this activity, but more importantly, all her newfound skills have her feeling good, and getting along better with her friends in and out of school.

Her father, Ashanti Johnson, decided to join in the fun this winter by becoming the coach of Serinity’s basketball team. Although he had never coached before, Ashanti was a natural. He loved seeing the students work as a team, and only hated when he had to sit a girl out. Serinity’s grandmother could often be seen on the sidelines, cheering father and daughter. Y sports have become a family affair.
Story of Jordan

Jordan Keen is many things: a junior at Eastern Michigan University, the Youth Sports Supervisor here at the Y, a finisher of the 2011 Chicago Marathon and a team captain for Netball America’s Team USA which will be competing in Cape Town, South Africa at the World University Games on July 2–5, 2012.

This accomplishment is all the more extraordinary given that when this talented athlete was twelve, she was bedridden and diagnosed with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy. Jordan only regained mobility three years ago.

As she traveled to treatments, Jordan watched the Y building go up and would dream about the basketball courts inside. Once she re-learned how to walk, she volunteered at the Y as a Youth Basketball Coach. She says “it wasn’t how I imagined coming back to basketball, but it was so rewarding”. She began attending the classes for active older adults and the gentle yoga and NIA classes. As she grew stronger, she progressed into the more active fitness and studio cycling classes. Jordan notes, “I’ve experienced the full spectrum of the walks of life with which our members may be coming to the Y—those facing physical challenges to athletically inclined individuals. Classes at the Y complemented the work my physical therapist was doing and definitely made a difference.”

She leaves with a smile saying, “I got better at the Y!”
Volunteering to help others is a socially responsible act: it strengthens our community by giving back and it makes kids feel good about themselves. Josh Humbel, the Y’s Youth and Teen Program Director notes that most teen volunteers experience a real arc: they go from discounting the importance of volunteering, to doing one simple project and then, as a result, experiencing empathy and being motivated to further action. In 2011, over 300 11–17 year olds joined the Ann Arbor Y’s Youth Volunteer Corps to do community service throughout Washtenaw County. Parker Bunton, a YVC member, spent a day at The Oaks, an Alzheimer and dementia residential facility in Ypsilanti. He says, “We were doing something that showed we actually cared about our city. And at the end, I thought: I really did something that helped my community: I made those peoples’ days when I was at the Alzheimers house.”

The Y has always emphasized the characteristics of honesty, caring, respect and responsibility as part of its cause. This emphasis comes through in each class, program, and interaction that Y members have with staff and with each other. By giving youth the opportunity to volunteer and practice these traits, we are training future citizens who understand the importance of social responsibility and its role in building community.
The YMCA is committed to the highest ethical standards of a public charity. The organization’s transparency can be viewed through the Form 990 posted on www.guidestar.org. The YMCA is governed by and accountable to an independent trust through the highest commitment to being good stewards of charitable dollars. Through its commitment to nonprofit excellence and providing access to all, the YMCA is truly an asset to our community.

**EXPENSES:**

**Programs:**
- Membership $1,777,588
- Childcare 583,670
- Camps 1,385,843
- Health & Fitness 646,156
- Youth 758,513
- Teen 192,537
- Community Outreach 168,429

**Total Program Services** 5,512,736

**Support Services:**
- Management & General 271,486
- Fundraising 121,254

**TOTAL EXPENSES** 5,905,476

**REVENUE & PUBLIC SUPPORT**

- Contributions 468,183
- Grants & Contracts 22,995
- Memberships 3,733,618
- Program Fees 2,622,848
- Merchandise Sales & Parking Fees 197,910
- Other Income 14,565

**TOTAL REVENUE & PUBLIC SUPPORT** 7,060,119

**NET ASSETS**

- Unrestricted, Undesignated 361,999
- Property & Equipment-Net of Related Debt 17,892,239
- Debt Retirement 500,000
- Construction, Capital Repairs & Replacement 2,192,858
- Endowment 50,000
- Community Outreach 187,898
- Temporarily Restricted 109,457

**TOTAL NET ASSETS** 21,294,451
STRONG KIDS CAMPAIGN!

Over 130 campaigners collaborated with community members to exceed the goal of $325,000. Each year volunteers reach out to their friends, neighbors, area businesses and foundations asking for donations. Their message is effective because it is true: the Ann Arbor YMCA strengthens the foundations of community by meeting its most critical needs. This year, your generous contributions are helping to make it possible for the Y to provide after school and summer recreation programs for 600 Ypsilanti elementary school children who have very limited opportunities for structured recreational activities. Additionally, kids from the Bryant, Hikone and Green Baxter Community Centers are participating in YMCA recreational and nutrition education where they live. The Strong Kids Campaign funds the Chain of Plenty Program for special needs high school students, Youth Volunteer Corps, Youth In Government and childcare scholarships for working families in need. Thank you for your generosity!