

## **The YMCA of Barry County has received accreditation from Praesidium, a leader in risk management.**

Hastings, MI – The YMCA of Barry County has received the prestigious Praesidium Accreditation® from Praesidium, a leader in abuse risk management. This honor publicly signifies that the organization has made significant efforts to meet the highest standards in abuse prevention.

To achieve accreditation, the YMCA of Barry County underwent a thorough process that involved implementing Praesidium's Accreditation® Standards. This process focused on eight key operational areas: policies, screening and selection, training, monitoring and supervision, consumer participation, internal feedback systems, response protocols, and administrative practices. Praesidium then verified that the YMCA had successfully implemented these standards. The YMCA will maintain its accreditation for three years, during which it is committed to upholding fundamental organizational values and strict safety practices to protect those in its care from abuse.

“The YMCA of Barry County’s top priority is the safety of our staff, volunteers, and participants. This is especially important for the youth in our programs and services. As a parent, and as YMCA employee for more than 25 years, I understand the importance of delivering this promise and the great responsibility involved. Our team takes this responsibility very seriously. We are committed to providing the safest environment possible for our community.” Jon Sporer, YMCA of Barry County CEO.

“The work Marci McCoy and our program directors have accomplished to reach this level is nothing short of fantastic. Our YMCA is one of three Y’s in Michigan and one of 70 in the country to achieve this accreditation.” Jon Sporer, YMCA of Barry County CEO

Founded in 1914, the YMCA of Barry County is a 501c3 non-profit organization. They provide year-round programming for the community that follows the core values of caring, honesty, respect, responsibility, and inclusion. Jon Sporer, CEO, and the Board of Directors guide the mission and initiatives. The Y’s main programs include:

- Camp Algonquin, a summer overnight and day camp serving over 500 youth and 30 staff, directed by Megan Muma.
- Y Sports, Recreation and Outreach programs, including the B. Bus Mobile Library and Y on the Fly serving over 1,000 youth and 20 staff, directed by Gina McMahon.
- Y Time Preschool and Y Time Before and After School serving the continuous needs of 50 families and 10 staff, directed by Shay Payne.

There are currently affordable openings in all their programs, and additional financial assistance is available through partnerships with others, including the United Way of Barry County.

Ongoing projects at Camp Algonquin this year include a hillside renovation, new cabin decks, and new cabin doors, making a safer and more accessible location for campers. There are also plans to complete the renovation of the former county building, now known as “The Y Building.” Once completed, this location will be home for the Y Time Nature-based Preschool and Y Time Before and After School program, as well as our Y Outreach hub, providing Y on the Fly meals and other programs.

Year-Round Staff include:

Jon Sporer, CEO

Marci McCoy, Grant Administrator, Childcare, and HR Support

Gina McMahon, Outreach and Recreation Director

Megan Muma, Camp Director

Shay Payne, Y Time Site Director

Kelly Gale, Office Manager

Jay Logsdan, Food Service Director

Melissa Fletke, Director of Marketing and Communication (not pictured)

Scott Allerding, Director of Facilities and Grounds (not pictured)

Board of Directors Includes:

Jim James, Nichole Lyke, Lindsey Beard, Emily Quiggle, Amy Beck, Verne Robins, Jon Sporer (CEO), Troy Dalman, Justin Peck, Steven Storrs, and Ron Fales