

Scott

On behalf of the board and staff at the YMCA of Greater Houston please accept our sincere appreciation for your historical giving to the YMCA Annual Scholarship Program and to our YMCA Capital Campaigns. The Space Center Rotary investments have truly made a difference in the lives of children and families in the Clear Lake area.

The YMCA will offer hundreds of sliding scale scholarships to children that live in low income areas this year so they too can benefit from our well rounded resident camp program. Many of these children would not get an opportunity to learn and develop new skills in the summer. Studies show that children that are exposed to education programs over the summer months show immense improvement in summer learning loss.

Studies have found that children, parents and camp staff see improvements in positive identity, social skills, physical and thinking skills, positive values, and spirituality due to camping experiences. Our goal is to help youth acquire these building blocks to create a firm foundation for their lives and a positive identity; a strong sense of power, purpose and self-worth; and values that will enable them to make wise choices throughout life.

For those who may not be able to afford a camping experience, Camp Cullen provides financial assistance to children and teens from Houston-area communities. Those served are from children homes, foster homes, military children with parents deployed overseas and children from families living at or below the federal poverty level. These at-risk children establish a critical bond with adult role models and through this experience have demonstrated significant improvement in social skills, leadership skills, and self-confidence and character values.

Would you be so kind to consider a gift as part of your Random Act of Kindness Program to help less fortunate children attend YMCA Camp Cullen this summer? This would provide sliding scale scholarships for 3 children. It is for a full week of overnight camping.

In closing, Camp Cullen is a special place that inspires minds, renews faith, builds character and encourages hearts in a supportive atmosphere. To be part of that experience is one of the greatest rewards that we share with our campers. In the great outdoors, amongst the trees and around the campfire, a child can reflect on where they've been and imagine where they still will go.

Thank you for your continued support of the YMCA Camp Cullen Annual Scholarship Program. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 713-854-0153 or nrutledge@ymcahouston.org.

Kindest Regards,

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