



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES, CHANGING LIVES

2025 National Advocacy Days Priorities

As the nation's leading nonprofit committed to helping people and communities learn, grow, and thrive, the Y engages more than 10,000 communities across the United States. The Y provides comprehensive programs and services in fulfillment of our mission to build healthy spirit, mind and body for all. At the Y, all people can find support and purpose.

Our legislative priorities support federal policies that connect individuals to the resources, opportunities, and relationships that everyone needs to thrive and investments in the work that Ys are doing across the country.

Support the highest level of funding possible for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).

Access to quality, affordable child care helps parents work and pursue education or training opportunities, supports business with the workforce they need, contributes to economic growth, and benefits the education and healthy development of youth.

- CCDBG is a federal-state partnership that supports each state's child care subsidy program, making quality early childhood and afterschool programs more affordable for families with children under the age of 13.
- Ys are playing an important role in providing communities with a critical resource: affordable child care. Increased funding will help states expand access to child care, improving future opportunities for children and families, and address the needs of providers and employers.

Support the highest level of funding possible for CDC's efforts to prevent chronic disease and injury.

- **Today 6 in 10 Americans are impacted by chronic diseases like diabetes, hypertension, cancer and arthritis. Investing in the prevention and control of chronic disease at CDC allows Ys to advance evidence-based programs that promote healthier lifestyles and curb overall health spending.**
- Today drowning is the leading cause of death among 0–4-year-olds. Investing in proven community-based water safety and swim instruction strategies at CDC helps Ys to deliver programs that save lives and costs associated with near drownings incidents.

Support tax policies that keep nonprofit organizations and communities strong.

- **Cosponsor the Charitable Act (S. 317/H.R. 801)**, which would restore the charitable deduction for non-itemizing taxpayers and increase the cap to one-third of the standard deduction, helping Ys and other nonprofits serve more community members.
- **Cosponsor the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Extension Act (S. 479/H.R. 1103)**, which would make the NMTC permanent. Since this program began, over 100 YMCA projects have accessed over \$1 billion to improve and build new facilities serving the highest-need communities.
- **Support child care-related tax incentives for parents and employers.** Enhance child care-related tax policies including the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, the Dependent Care Assistance Program, the Employer Provided Child Care Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit to help families offset part of the cost of care and ensure that employers have a stable and reliable workforce.





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Support the Building Civic Bridges Act to help bring our communities together across differences.

- **Cosponsor the Building Civic Bridges Act (BCBA)** to fund a new Office of Civic Bridgebuilding, establish a grant program for bridgebuilding initiatives, train community members in bridgebuilding skills, and support academic research on civic bridgebuilding, civic engagement and social cohesion.
- In 2022, 70% of Americans believed deep divisions prevent us from addressing serious issues, an increase from 45% in 2010. This polarization negatively impacts American life and weakens our national security, economy, businesses and our communities.

