About the Meriden-New Britain-Berlin YMCA

At the Meriden-New Britain-Berlin YMCA, we transform lives every day. We nurture the potential of kids, promote healthy living, and foster a sense of social responsibility. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. The Meriden-New Britain-Berlin YMCA met community needs in 2021 by:

Keeping Our Community Healthy, Active and Engaged

- Kept members active and healthy with over 75 group exercise classes at four locations
- Created healthier futures by helping members lose over 100 pounds in our weight loss challenges
- Collaborated with the Meriden Adult Education program and offered over fifteen wellness classes per semester
- Offered over 200 middle school and high school kids CrossFit youth sports training
- Expanded our youth sports program offerings with the Lady Jets travel basketball team
- Taught life-saving swimming skills to 1,057 children
- Led a successful swim team of 93 swimmers to another record breaking season which included swimmers qualifying for national championships and CT Top 16 swimmers
- Taught over 60 kids and 70 adults to dance at the New Britain YMCA
- Offered over 200 middle school and high school kids CrossFit youth sports training
- Performed three youth musical theater shows with 100 kids, three summer shows with 75 kids, and had the highest attendance ever at our December shows with 1,722 attendees
- Launched rockets and learned about STEM with our future engineers, scientists and astronauts at Mountain Mist Day Camp and Camp Thundermoon
- Collaborated with the New Britain school system on Super Saturdays where Middle and High School youth participated in Red Cross Babysitting Training, swim lessons, strength training in the fitness center, and rock climbing in our indoor facility at the New Britain YMCA
- Over 100 youth ages 11-16 years old across the association will be trained through the Red Cross Babysitting Training program
- Collaborated with the Berlin Board of Education’s transition program at 362 Main Street in Berlin including swimming opportunities at the Y
- Partnered with the Berlin Parks and Rec each year on the Tinsel Fun Run

Caring for children

- Provided child care for 1,314 children
- Expanded our child care offerings to help working families with high quality affordable child care
- Provided Before and After School Care, Remote Learning, Vacation Fun Day and Snow Day Care options for working families
- Provided over 1500 children a summer camp experience at Mountain Mist Day Camp to enjoy unplugged outdoor fun and opportunities to build self-confidence and make new friends

MERIDEN-NEW BRITAIN-BERLIN YOUNG MEN’S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

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• Averaged 120 children per week at Camp Thundermoon providing children in the New Britain and Berlin communities with the opportunity for outdoor fun and friendship
• Resumed our Child Watch babysitting service which is offered at no extra charge to our full members with family memberships

Providing Jobs and Training
• Employed 793 people
• Provided 52 disadvantaged Meriden youth with job opportunities for the summer to learn valuable skills in a career or trade and fundamental employment skills including interviewing, accountability, time management and how to conduct themselves in a professional manner
• Trained and recertified lifeguards with lifesaving skills

Providing Food and Shelter
• Distributed and delivered over 700 to-go meals on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day plus gave toys from Santa at the Meriden YMCA
• Housed over 90 men in our Hart House Member-In-Residence Program at the New Britain YMCA
• Provided Thanksgiving meals for our Members-In-Residence in collaboration with the New Britain Rotary Club
• Provided 90 to-go meals for our Hart House Members-In-Residence for Christmas holidays
• Partnered with Mobile FoodShare to distribute food twice per month at the New Britain YMCA benefiting 80-120 people at each event
• Fed our child care students healthy meals each week

Hosting and participating in community events
• Hosted a virtual and in-person Easter Sunrise Service at Castle Craig at Hubbard Park
• Shared information with families at events with local community organizations