

whY the Y

Dear Friend of the Athens YMCA,

This summer, over 700 kids from across Athens will fill our YMCA for Camp Kelley — nine weeks of fun, friendship, and lifelong memories.

At the heart of it all? A team of **25 incredible students** known as our Leaders in Training (LITs).

These young leaders have stepped up as role models and essential helpers to keep camp running smoothly. One of their most important responsibilities: teaching our campers how to swim every Tuesday and Thursday.



To prepare, our LITs recently completed the Junior Swim Instructor Course — two days of hands-on training with our Aquatics Team focused on safety, drowning prevention, and swim instruction. They left empowered, connected, and ready to lead.

But this is about more than just swimming. These LITs are passing along **lifesaving skills and confidence**—lessons that extend far beyond the water. When a child learns to swim, they also learn to trust themselves, take risks, and grow stronger.

And when we invest in teens like these—who in turn pour into the next generation—we're building something much bigger than a summer camp.

We're building community.

That's why we're inviting you to be part of our *Building Community* Capital Campaign. With your support, we can continue to create spaces where teens become leaders, and children gain confidence that lasts a lifetime.



GIVE TODAY!

Because when we invest in our young people, we all rise.
Thank you for being part of this story,

Shae Wilson
CEO