



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Historical Timeline of the Family YMCA of the Desert

1982

Established. YMCA of Riverside offered programs in the Coachella Valley prior to opening.

1982 – 1984

The Y embarked on a Capital Campaign, eventually acquiring two acres of land in Palm Desert.

1984

Merger with Palm Desert Youth Center on Portola Avenue to offer more services.

1986

Y purchased modular facilities and moved the Youth Center and YMCA offices to Magnesia Falls Park in Palm Desert.

1987

Y began to provide before and after school programs at some Desert Sands Schools (on each campus). Other programs initiated included youth basketball, day and overnight camps, and gymnastics.

1988

Y holds first annual “Hoedown at Sundown” childcare fund-raiser, raising money to support childcare throughout the Valley.

1989

Y after school programs were licensed per directive of California State Department of Social Services.

Programs launched at Monroe Elementary in Bermuda Dunes and Ford Elementary in Palm Desert.

Plans begin with the City of Palm Desert for Y facility construction/lease with the Palm Desert Redevelopment Agency.

1990

Y Palm Desert facility opened on San Pablo Avenue, creating a central location to better serve families and children

1991

Y opened YMCA La Quinta Preschool.

1994

Merger with Girls, Inc., in Indio. Boards of Directors merged, creating a more diverse and active Board to expand Y services.

1995

Doris Mechanick Preschool state contract acquired; preschool opened.

1996

Gymnastics Center opened on Berkey Drive in Bermuda Dunes.

Rancho Mirage Child Development Center opened at Rancho Mirage Elementary site.

1997

Jean Benson Preschool opened (February).

Indio Youth Center (formerly Girls, Inc) went through extensive remodel and reopened in September.

1999

Y opens Child Care Center at Carter Elementary in Palm Desert.

La Quinta Preschool and Jean Benson Preschool state contracts acquired.

Gymnastics Center closed in Palm Desert.

2001

Opened Amelia Earhart Elementary in Indio (October).

2002

Y Board of Directors and community leaders created a comprehensive Strategic Plan for future Y services and facilities.

2003

Adopted Strategic Plan- formed new board teams.

2004

Acquired the former Palm Springs Youth Center; re-opened as the Palm Springs Y.

Opened Lincoln Elementary in partnership with the City of Palm Desert.

2005

Y holds first annual "Charity Golf Tournament" (May).

Opened Col Mitchell Paige Middle (September).

Opened Adams Elementary (December).

Opened Ben Franklin Elementary (December).

2006

Became partners with Desert Sands Unified and Palm Springs Unified School Districts in providing the state funded "After School Education and Safety" program (ASES).

Began outreach and fundraising for capital campaign (May).

Opened Carrillo Ranch Elementary (September).

Opened Ronald Reagan Elementary (September).

2007

Contracted with the City of La Quinta to operate Y swim programs at Fritz Burns Pool.

Family YMCA of the Desert celebrates 25th Anniversary (October).

Launched partnership with Coachella Valley Housing Coalition (CVHC) to provide after school programs at four low-income family housing communities:

Coyote Run in Palm Springs (April), Arroyo de Paz in Desert Hot Springs (August), Fuente de Paz in Coachella (November), and Desert Gardens in Indio (October).

2008

Free swim program (April).

Y Be Fit program began in Desert Hot Springs (September).

Opened Vista Dunes in La Quinta (Hope Through Housing) after school program (October).

2009

Free swim program (April).

Y Be Fit program renewed for another year in Desert Hot Springs.

Opened CVHC sites Paseo de los Heroes 1 in Mecca (September) and Las Casas in Coachella (September).

2010

Opened CVHC site at Wolff Waters in La Quinta (March).

Shoes That Fit program in Desert Hot Springs (May).

Opened CVHC site at Paseo de Los Heroes 2 in Mecca (August).

Opened Hope Through Housing site at River Canyon in Cathedral City.

Acquired additional PSUSD ASES sites; the YMCA becomes the official ASES program provider for 20 schools (16 elementary / 4 middle) in the district (September).

2011

Family YMCA selected by City of Palm Desert to operate \$7.5 million Palm Desert Aquatics Center, under construction (February).

2012

Special Guest appearance of Olympic Swimmer Janet Evans; Hoedown at Sundown, 2012

Acquired additional PSUSD ASES site at Painted Hills Middle School (August).

Opened CVHC sites at Rosa Gardens in Palm Springs (August) and Brisas de la Paz in Desert Hot Springs (November).

2013

Sustaining Campaign Honorary Chair, Janet Evans, former Olympiad.

Swim to Win – Largest one day Swim Safety Day ever held in valley – featuring 6 Olympian Swimmers and over 2000 people in attendance.

2014

Sustaining Campaign Chair, Carl Karcher of CLK Enterprises (2013, 2014).

Just Add Swim (formerly Swim to Win) – Largest one day Swim Safety Day ever held in valley featuring Olympic Swimmers; over 2000 people in attendance.

Record breaking attendance at our Summer Day-Camps and Overnight Camps.

Inaugural year for Y-Be-Fit-Palm-Desert-Challenge: Reverse-Mini-Triathlon, 5K Run/Walk, 1K Color Run/Walk.

2015

Successful Annual Campaign exceeded goal by \$100,000.

New CVHC sites at Rosa Gardens (Palm Springs) and Brisas de la Paz (Desert Hot Springs).

2017

Conducted the first annual YMCA winter charity golf tournament. "Rocking for the Kids" was a huge success and featured celebrity host Mickey Thomas from Starship.

YMCA was selected as nonprofit of the year by Palm Desert area Chamber of Commerce.

2018

City of Palm Desert renewed the lease to manage all programs at the Palm Desert Aquatic Center.

Acquired programming from Christopher's Clubhouse, a local nonprofit that teaches children a variety of safety skills. The YMCA will continue this valuable program to provide life skills in the area of safety for all children.