



# TEXAS STATE ALLIANCE

## Quarterly Email Newsletter

### A LETTER FROM THE ALLIANCE CHAIR, TONY SHUMAN



**TONY SHUMAN**

As we come to the close of the first quarter of the year, our Texas YMCAs continue striving to fulfill its mission of making our communities in Texas stronger. YMCAs across Texas continue to find ways to make our families healthier, our youth safer around water and to help our seniors maintain an active lifestyle.

This year brings the 86th Texas Legislature which runs January 8 until May 27th. We began our legislative season in January with very successful State Advocacy Days in Austin as we outlined our state priorities.

#### **CONTINUE READING**

### BETTER US CAMPAIGN

Our Better Us campaign is a time to rally in support of our mission as one organization, to ensure that the Y is available for all and that everyone has equal access to the resources and tools they need to thrive. Funds raised support the Y's work in communities across the TX area. Continue reading with how the Greater Houston Y is campaigning for a better us.

#### **CONTINUE READING**

### TEXAS YMCAS

Abilene  
Arlington-Mansfield Area  
Austin Metro  
Big Spring · Central TX  
Coastal Bend · Corsicana  
Dallas Metro · El Paso  
Fort Worth Metro  
Golden Crescent  
Hereford · Houston Metro  
Kerr County · Midland  
Moore County · Odessa  
Palestine · Plainview  
San Angelo · San Antonio  
Metro  
Southeast Texas  
Wichita Falls Metro  
Williamson County





## STATE ADVOCACY DAY

We gathered January 25th at the state capitol building for State Advocacy Day. We promoted national standards around physical activity and healthy eating in out-of-school time programs, created awareness around drowning prevention and aquatics safety and engaged lawmakers on the significance of chronic disease prevention.

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## NATIONAL ADVOCACY DAY

More than 300 Y leaders traveled to Washington, DC for National Advocacy Days to learn about Y-USA's legislative priorities, gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a Y advocate and meet with their elected officials to discuss important issues to Ys and the communities they serve.

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## DAVID LOPEZ NAMED NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

David Lopez joins the Texas State Alliance of YMCA's and its efforts to strengthen communities through advocacy, statewide programs and community strengthening. He oversees the Y's effort in building partnerships that support children, families and communities to support the Y's strategic vision and growth initiatives.

### CONTINUE READING

## DASH INITIATIVE: HB 702

House Bill 702 filed by Representative Eddie Lucio, also known as the DASH Initiative was born out of a desire to understand the current out-of-school time (OST) landscape in Texas and identify strategies to enhance the quality of care for Texas youth.

### CONTINUE READING



## YMCA OF USA LAUNCHES NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

The purpose of YMCA of the USA's (Y-USA) three-year Committing To Community Change strategic plan is building the infrastructure needed to deliver on the Commitment to America. Specifically, the plan is focused on helping Ys measure the impact of their work, engage new communities, and collaborate with each other to accelerate knowledge sharing and innovation.

### CONTINUE READING

## HEALTHY LIVING SUMMIT

The Y is committed to helping lead the transformation of health and health care from a system largely focused on treatment of illness to a collaborative community approach that elevates well-being, prevention, and health maintenance.

**CONTINUE READING**

## WALKING & ACTIVE COMMUNITIES GRANT

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) will build upon its partnership with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) by providing funds to 16 YMCA State Alliances to promote active communities that are safe and accessible for all to be physically active.

**CONTINUE READING**



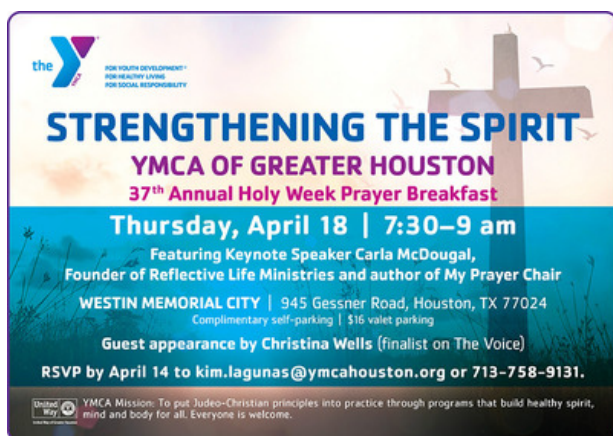
## SAVE THE DATE

CLICK TITLES FOR LINKS

### TEXAS DROWNING PREVENTION WEEK

Join us in Austin on May 7th at the Texas Capitol Extension in the South Gallery to kick off drowning prevention week.

### 37TH ANNUAL HOLY WEEK PRAYER BREAKFAST



### HEALTHY TEXAS WEEK

April 29 - May 5, Texans are encouraged to SHOP for healthy items, SWEAT by getting active, and SHARE photos and videos of their activities on social media using the hashtag #HEALTHYTEXASWEEK