

# SERVICE IMPACT

in Southeast Raleigh

January – April 2021



YMCA OF THE TRIANGLE

## COMMUNITY IMPACT: Q1 2021



### Health & Wellbeing

#### Advance Community Health COVID-19 Testing

The zip code 27610 has the highest reported rates of COVID-19 in NC.

In October, the Southeast Raleigh YMCA partnered with Advance Community Health to make our location a regular testing site. 527 community members were tested onsite in Q1.

#### Martin Luther King Jr. Day Food Distribution

MLK Day of Service drive-through food distribution, organized by partners Marketing with a Twist and The Year of the Black Entrepreneur, served over 800 families.

#### Family Food Distribution

Southeast Raleigh is a USDA-designated food desert, with an unemployment rate 50% higher than in the rest of Wake County. In Q1, our branch held bi-monthly distributions that engaged 100+ volunteers to help distribute 20,000 lbs. of fresh food, serving an average of 300 families per distribution.



### Education

#### Scholastic Support Centers, Before & After School

The SER YMCA continued working with Wake County Schools to develop Scholastic Support Centers, which provides students a place to participate in their online classes. Our youth department also launched before and after school programs, partnering with Pave Elementary and onsite with SER Elementary School.

#### Access to Nature & Habitat Restoration in Southeast Raleigh

The SER YMCA Afterschool program began working with the City of Raleigh Walnut Creek Wetlands Center Program to construct pollinator beds, offering youth a hands-on experience with conservation. This conversation program supports the City's improvement for the Greenway bridge connection at Walnut Creek. For 70 years, the City of Raleigh has been dumping sewage into Walnut Creek, flowing directly into predominantly Black neighborhoods, impacting their health and wellbeing. A healthy Walnut Creek is significant to environmental and racial justice.

#### Martin Luther King Jr. Day Computer Drive

To help bridge the digital divide for kids learning remotely, the SER Y partnered with Kramden Institute to donate 50 computers to SER elementary and high school students. Computer drives were held at SER, Alexander, and Poyner YMCA locations to collect computers and accessories to be refurbished by Kramden Institute.



### Mixed Income Housing

#### Beacon Ridge Housing

All Beacon Ridge residents that were members under the SER Zone Pricing rates were converted to the new Beacon Ridge special rate. All Beacon Ridge residents that join going forward will not have to pay a joining fee and will automatically receive 50% off their monthly rate.

**Our mission: To put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build a healthy spirit, mind and body for all.**

This special membership plan does not expire. This plan was developed with the help of YOTA Association Membership Team and DHIC leadership. The goal is for this plan to be replicated across the Triangle area with other DHIC properties partnering with the YOTA.



## Leadership Development

### Racial Equity Institute Training

The SER YMCA collaborated with the Racial Equity Institute to host three virtual Groundwater Approach Trainings, attended by an average of 70 participants. The SER YMCA worked with local community partners to host debrief conversations following the racial equity trainings. These partner organizations include SER Promise, SER Magnet High, The Encouraging Place, SER Elementary School, Social Economic Vitality, DHIC, and Raleigh Organize Against Racism (ROAR).

All trainings were free with seats being strategically allocated to local partners and the community at large.

### Black History Month Educational Events and Community Discussions

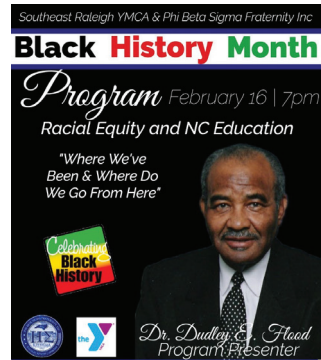
**Racial Equity and NC Education: Where have we been and where do we go from here** - Presentation lead by SER Board Member Dr. Dudley Flood.

**Black Women: Breaking Barriers, Leading Change** - Virtual discussion moderated by Lisa Yebuah (Campus Pastor at Southeast Raleigh Table). Panelist included Dr. Maria Arvelo Lumpkin (Interim President at St. Augustine University), Sharlene Provilus (CEO Write Speak Inspire), Regelyn Edwards (Executive Director of Encouraging Place), Yolanda Taylor (Managing Attorney Legal Aid NC), and Clarendia Stanley (Owner of Green Heffa Farms).

**The Locker Room: Athletes Using Their Voice for Change** - Virtual discussion moderated by Troy Johnson (Executive Director of YM4C Enterprises). Panelist included Chasity Melvin (former WNBA All-Star), Rapsody (Grammy-nominated Rapper), Torry Holt (former NFL player and SER Board Member), Terrence Holt (former NFL player and President of Holt Brothers Construction), Cliff Crosby (former NFL player), and Lex-Jordan Ibegbu (Lawyer and SER Board Member).

### Women's History Month Community Discussion

**A conversation with Chief Justice Cheri Beasley** - Virtual conversation moderated by WRAL Anchor Mikaya Thurmond.



## Economic Opportunity

### Food Distribution Purchases

As the SER YMCA continues bi-monthly food distributions, we also continue working with local and minority-owned farms to purchase healthy food for the community. Based on the funding received to support food distributions, we were able to intentionally invest \$56,800 back into local or minority-owned farms to purchase healthy food for the community.

### Black History Month Business Spotlight

Local black owned businesses were hosted onsite, providing an opportunity for a vendor promotional table, and social media platforms were utilized to spotlight local black owned business throughout February.



### Special thanks to our community partners:

- The Southeast Raleigh Promise
- Southeast Raleigh Elementary School
- Wake County Public School System
- DHIC Affordable housing

To learn more about the Southeast Raleigh YMCA, visit [YMCATriangle.org](https://YMCATriangle.org) or stop by our branch at 1436 Rock Quarry Road.

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