

# SERVICE IMPACT

in Southeast Raleigh

April – June 2021



YMCA OF THE TRIANGLE

## COMMUNITY IMPACT: Q2 2021

### Health & Wellbeing

#### Advance Community Health COVID-19 Testing & Vaccination

Southeast Raleigh YMCA continued partnering with Advance Community Health in the 2nd quarter by being a regular drive-through testing site and becoming a vaccination clinic location. 403 community members were tested and 200 people received the first and second dose of the Moderna vaccine.

#### Family Cooking Class

SER YMCA partnered with Inter-Faith Food Shuttle to offer our first in-person cooking class using our Community Kitchen. Six families from SER participated in a six-week interactive cooking class designed for parents and children. Cooking Matters classes emphasize healthy, low-cost ingredients and incorporate fresh produce into each session.

#### 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 Q2, our branch held bi-monthly distributions that engaged 100+ volunteers to help distribute 20,000 lbs. of fresh food, averaging 300 families per distribution. Our June distribution partnered with The Diaper Train at Saint Savior's Center and Best Baby Zone to provide diapers, car seats, and additional family resources.

#### Raleigh Black Farmers Market

The 2021 season of the Black Farmers Market kicked off in April and will be held every 4th Sunday through November at the SER Y. Following a successful launch last year, this year's market increased from 30 farmers and vendors to 40. The average attendance for the three events held in Q2 was 1000 participants.

### Education

#### Juneteenth Celebration Event

400+ community members joined us for our Juneteenth Celebration, hosted in partnership with the Year of the Black Entrepreneur and the Virtual Art Exchange! The event incorporated information on the history of Juneteenth, a monologue by Sharlene Provilus, and remarks from Congresswoman Deborah Ross. Along with the educational components, the event also included live musical performances, DJ, dance class, and bouncy houses.

#### YMCA Summer Day Camp

This summer, Southeast Raleigh Promise hired twelve Southeast Raleigh WCPSS students, between the ages of 14-17, and two North Carolina State University mentors to participate in an internship focused on leadership and equity trainings. The SER Y Executive Director Dexter Hebert lead the teens on an Equity Bus Tour discussing how systematic observations made from a moving vehicle can be used to assess general community needs.



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

## Environmental Justice Camp

In addition to our YMCA summer camp, we were a host location for a teen environmental justice camp in collaboration with Wake County 4-H and the NC State Center for Family and Community Studies. This 1-week camp focused on the intersection of environmentalism and civil rights, led by a local environmental educator.

## Mixed Income Housing

### Beacon Ridge Housing

Since establishing a special Beacon Ridge Membership Rate (no joining fee and automatic 50% off the monthly rate) we saw an increase in residents joining the Y. The SER Y began to work with more housing developments and Habitat For Humanity to establish membership opportunities that meet the need of their residents.

## Leadership Development

### Racial Equity Institute Training

The SER YMCA collaborated with the Racial Equity Institute to host two virtual Groundwater Approach Trainings, each averaging 75 participants. The SER YMCA worked with local community partners to host debrief conversations following the Groundwater trainings. Also in Q2, the SER YMCA filled all 40 spaces for a two-day virtual REI Phase I workshop in collaboration with the Racial Equity Institute. REI's two-day Phase 1 training is designed to develop the capacity of participants to better understand racism in its institutional and structural forms.

## 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. In Q2, based on the funding received to support food distributions, we were able to intentionally invest \$78,600 back into local or minority-owned farms to purchase healthy food for the community.

### Juneteenth Celebration

Our Juneteenth Celebration event included a black business expo that provided an opportunity for businesses to promote their products. For this event, the organizers were intentional about incorporating black-owned vendors including the food trucks, DJ, live music band, and bouncy houses.



### 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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