

The Villages at Carver Family YMCA

Our Story

A part of the nation's sixth largest and one of the fastest growing YMCA associations, The Villages at Carver Family YMCA is the 23rd addition to the Metro Atlanta YMCA. Located on Pryor Road, in the heart of an underserved, mixed-income community, The Villages at Carver YMCA is a collaborative effort between the Metro Atlanta Association and the historic Butler Street Association, which have existed independently and exclusively of one another...until now! During times of segregation, the Butler Street YMCA Association served primarily the African-American community in Atlanta and has since remained a driving force in their service area even after integration. So, when the idea came about to build a new YMCA in an area that was traditionally serviced by Butler Street, it was decided that a partnership between the two associations would be the best way to effectively address the needs of the communities. And so The Villages at Carver Family YMCA was born.

We are a 55,000 square foot full facility that includes a gymnasium and indoor suspended track, aquatics center, complete with a whirlpool and steam room, multi-purpose rooms, cardiovascular center, and childcare while you work out! The YMCA, however, is not just a "swim and gym." Offering a wide spectrum of programming ranging from Youth in Government to audio/visual production to literacy and even sewing, The Villages at Carver Family YMCA continues to carry out the mission of developing the mind, body and spirit.

The need for the Villages at Carver YMCA is evidenced by statistical data that shows that there are over 11,000 children under the age of eighteen, of which 78% are African-American and 15% are white, while the average household income is \$22,067. An overwhelming 62% of the population has an income of under \$35,000. Part of the YMCA's mission is to actively seek to involve those in need. For working, low-income families the Y's financial assistance program, Family to Family, will be offered to underwrite the cost of membership.

School-aged children spend only 20% of their waking time in school, therefore it is pertinent that programming be provided for children after school. National trends indicate an increasing number of early gang involvement, drug use and sexual activity. In the city of Atlanta alone, there are approximately 13,000 children between the ages of 5 - 9 and 10,000 youth aged 10 - 13 who do not have access to quality affordable out-of-school programs. In an effort to reverse these figures, The Metro Atlanta YMCA is the single largest provider of services in the metro area with out-of-school programs that reach more than 8,000 children a day. Since 2004, The Villages at Carver YMCA has provided programming for children after school.

We are committed to providing quality and innovative programming to our community. As a part of this effort, The Villages at Carver YMCA, in collaboration with the Atlanta Braves, presents *The Atlanta Braves Baseball Academy*, an 8-acre sports complex comprised of four fields. The Baseball Academy is an integral part of the Y's third partnership with the Atlanta Housing Authority to redevelop former public housing neighborhoods into mixed-income communities. This signature program will afford 500 urban youth the opportunity to participate in youth sports that are traditionally not offered in the inner-city. Youth sports programming will include, but is not limited to, baseball, T-ball, and soccer.

The Villages at Carver Family YMCA is looking forward to a bright future of creating an impact in our community. Join us in making our vision a reality!