



YMCA of Centre County State College Branch

Stories from School Age Child Care

From the Kids

I think the YMCA is a great place to go after school—we get to do educational games, physical activities, get help with home work, and hang out with our friends. All the staff members are very supportive and take the time to listen to you if you have a problem.

The YMCA is a fun place to go with my family for Family Nights and basketball. I like going to the After School Program so I can spend time with friends, play basketball, and most important dodge ball. Also my parents let me choice if I want to go the Before School Program or walk to school and I picked the Before School Program so I can be with my friends and play knockout with the teachers. I look forward to Summer Camp this summer so we can go on cool trips, have a lock in, and play dodge ball!!!

We love the after school program because we do special activities in the gym and we get to go outside with all our friends.



From the Parents

The State College YMCA is a one stop shop for the whole family. We use the “Y” for after school care, summer camps, athletic programs, and attend family activities as well. We especially enjoy open swim at pool, the Father/Daughter Dance, Family Nights, and Parent’s Night.

The YMCA supports our family all year long. The school age program provides a safe environment for our children to learn and play before and after school. On the weekends, we take advantage of the swim lessons. During the summertime, our children enroll in summer day camp, where they exercise, explore Central Pennsylvania, and make lasting friendships.



YMCA of Centre County State College Branch

Stories from School Age Child Care

The Director's Story

I really do feel honored to be working at the YMCA of Centre County. I have spent my last 20 years working for the YMCA. (5 years in Ontario, Canada and since 1996 in State College). I thank YMCA almost every night for being my family away from home. I have had the pleasure of working with wonderful families, outstanding staff members, but most important the greatest of children. Through my work at the YMCA many memories have been made that will last a life time to name a few seeing a child pass their swim test on the 12 and final week of summer camp...now he works at the YMCA as a camp counselor, the many over nights at the YMCA where staff get little or no sleep but are all smiles the next day as they face another day with 120 plus children, seeing a camper perform to their favorite song in our talent show, watching the children or myself make it to the top of the climbing wall, the many hugs and smiles, seeing a friendship bloom between two boys that had a fist fight a few months ago, mentoring interns from PSU, and the many community service projects the children and staff members have been a part of such as writing letters to seniors, sending care packages to the troops, food drives, penny drives to benefits the Giving Campaign, and many more. The one that stands out to me is the Walk and Lemonade Stand we did this past summer for Alex's Lemonade. To my surprise we raised over \$2200.00. As I continue working at the YMCA I look forward to meeting new families and creating more wonderful memories.

Comments from Staff

The YMCA is my family away from home. The YMCA has giving me the opportunity to work with wonderful children and families for the past year. Working at the YMCA has given me great experience that I will be using as I start my Masters degree in Social Work this fall.

The YMCA helped me grow up—without the good people, positive influence, staff believing in me, and the YMCA giving me the chance to prove myself I may stay be trying to get out of college. The State College YMCA was a stepping stone to a professional life and career. I am forever grateful to the YMCA.

I love working for the YMCA for many reasons. When I was a child, my family was involved in our local YMCA so it's always been a part of me. I love what the YMCA does for the people and community. The things I see the YMCA do for the community motivates me to be a good person in my everyday life. Working with the School Age Child Care especially motivates me to take the time to have a positive influence on every child I come in contact with. I am so excited to be part of Summer Day Camp 2011 and look forward to meeting new children and families at camp. I thank the YMCA of Centre County for giving me the opportunity to do my internship (RPTM) at their organization.