



RETIREE LIAISON REPORT

February 2022 BOARD MEETING

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING

The Fund's Board of Trustees met via Zoom on February 24-25, 2022. The Fund's leadership team presented an update on the YMCA Movement, and an overview of the Fund's investment portfolio.

Suzanne McCormick, the 15th person and first woman to lead Y-USA as the CEO, was an invited guest. She shared some of her insights and perspectives from her first several months on the job.

YMCA MOVEMENT UPDATE

Derrick Stewart, SVP Education & Communication, addressed the current health of the Ys and changes in the participation in the Fund by today's active participants.

Here are some insights from Derrick's presentation:

- The largest YMCAs (YMCA North American Network and Mid-Majors) comprise 18% of YMCAs and employ 64% of Fund participants.
- In comparing pre-COVID total revenue and membership revenue with current forecasts of similar revenue streams projected for the near future, total revenues are down by 28% and forecasted membership revenue is down by 35%.
- Most Ys are projecting at least three years out before membership levels will begin to approach 2019 membership numbers.
- Staffing at all levels of the Y remains a significant challenge, with CEO turnover projected to be as high as 10-15%.
- Child Care and Aquatics staff are challenging to find and retain, causing many Ys to reduce hours and services.
- Most Ys have had significant amounts of stimulus funding with estimated amounts surpassing \$2 billion.

Under Derrick's leadership, the Fund instituted a CEO Advisory Cabinet to better understand the needs and workforce dynamics of local Ys, provide feedback on strategic objectives, enhance mutual understanding of the Fund and YMCA Movement, and serve as advocates for the Fund. The 20-member CEO Advisory Cabinet is diverse in geography, size of Y, and gender of CEOs. It will meet in person in the spring.

PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Hunter Reisner, Chief Investment Officer, explained that in this highly volatile global environment, the Fund's leadership is constantly assessing risk-reward trade-offs associated with its asset allocation. In prioritizing the range of risks related to the Fund, staff and Trustees consider Shortfall Risk, Downside/Drawdown Risk, and Liquidity/Illiquidity Risk. Other risks are also considered, ranging from country and currency risk to manager and sector risk. Having a comprehensive understanding of risk allows the Trustees and Management to balance risk against returns when allocating assets.

PRESENTATION BY Y-USA PRESIDENT & CEO

Suzanne McCormick shared her perceptions during her first six months on the job. In her candid commentary, Suzanne mentioned favorable bright spots found during her "listening tour" of Ys:

- The work of the Ys Government Affairs Office in Washington, DC, has brought more than \$2 billion to Ys across the country.
- An ever-increasing number of Ys are forming pragmatic alliances that feature shared services.
- The Ys commitment to diversity continues to strengthen with new programs and services.

Suzanne outlined the following opportunities for Y-USA:

- Building stronger trust between local Ys and Y-USA
- Bolstering expertise and services to support local Ys
- Encouraging YMCAs to stay within the Movement ecosystem when seeking support services

Suzanne recognizes tremendous opportunities for Y-USA to invest in and deliver high-quality services. Y-USA has engaged in a new strategic planning process that seeks to align the culture and expertise of Y-USA with the needs and support of local Ys. She believes a close working relationship between Y-USA and the Fund is critically important to the future of the Y.

JOIN OR RENEW YOUR
YMCA ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP
www.ymcaalumni.org
NATIONAL YMCA HALL OF FAME
[Read more](#)



Reid S. Thebault
Retiree Liaison