



December 2017 Featured Agency of the Month

YMCA Community Support Services



Yvonne was a single parent with twin babies at the beginning of her journey to recovery, when she began receiving YMCA child care assistance. Yvonne was able to complete her drug treatment program and get back into the workforce, and has since become a Certified Drug and Alcohol Substance Abuse Specialist with the Dependency Courts, where she helps others who struggle with substance abuse. The twins experience a wide range of creative and educational enrichment at their after school program. When she looked into YMCA summer camp scholarships this past summer, Yvonne was assured to learn that camp staff had the training, protocol, facilities, and strong commitment to inclusive and individualized programming, to prepare a welcoming and safe camp experience for her transgender daughter. Recently celebrating her new marriage and the twins' 8th birthday, Yvonne is now working on her BA in Psychology.

The future is bright for Yvonne and her family.

The YMCA of San Diego County is dedicated to improving the quality of human life, and helping all people realize their fullest potential through the development of the spirit, mind and body. Established in 1928, our programs and services are diverse but center on three primary focus areas:

- Youth Development: Nurturing the potential of every child and teen
- Healthy Living: Improving the nation's health and well-being
- Social Responsibility: Giving back and providing support to our neighbors

Alternative Payment is just one of many programs in the YMCA Community Support Services (CSS) region of the YMCA of San Diego County. CSS contains a number of social service programs that all work in harmony to enrich the common good and make life better for individuals, families, and communities through holistic programming and supports.

For families we offer:

- Free child care referrals
- Access to our resource library that has the latest trends in child development
- Expert advice on children's health and behavior
- Subsidized child care, behavior support services, rich community resources, YMCA memberships and camp scholarships, for low-income families
- Family Support and Preservation services for kinship caregivers, children in foster care and families involved in the Child Welfare System
- Individual, family, and school based counseling services

We support families with children with special needs by providing:

- Respite care for families connected to the Regional Center and United States Navy
- After school care for teens with developmental disabilities
- Specialized child care searches to create the best possible match for a family's needs

We set young adults on a path to safety and success through:

- Transitional housing and supportive services for homeless, runaway, and foster youth

- Drop in centers, workforce development, counseling and case management
- Supportive behavioral health program and services for LGBTQ youth

For child care providers and early childhood educators, we provide:

- Opportunities to network with other providers and educators
- Access to various tools such as referrals to their programs, resource and toy lending library and coaching on healthy eating and physical activity
- Health and safety training opportunities to enhance the quality of child care programs, new curriculum for center and home based programs, best practices and training to start a licensed child care business