

# MY Y STORY: ZAHRAA



Born in Iraq, Zahraa and her family fled to Jordan to escape the turmoil of the Iraq War. Her family moved to United States in 2011 in search of a better life.

Through the recommendation of a friend, she quickly found the YMCA Minority Achievers Program (MAP) at Mariner High School and learned about the Casino Road Youth Development Center.

**“Life in United States was new and overwhelming. Participating in MAP helped me grow. It’s helped me with my English, and I feel like I am a part of something. It’s even helped me get a scholarship to attend college and to get my first job at the YMCA. I never knew this could be possible. It’s amazing to me.”**

YMCA OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY  
YMCA-SNOCO.ORG

## YMCA CASINO ROAD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

14 E. Casino Road  
Everett WA 98204  
425 512 8050

To volunteer, donate, or learn more, contact:  
Alex Costumbrado 425 493 2435  
acustombrado@ymca-snoco.org

[YMCA-SNOCO.ORG/CRYDC](http://YMCA-SNOCO.ORG/CRYDC)

## YMCA MISSION

To inspire, nurture, and strengthen culturally vibrant communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility.

The Y is for everyone.  
Financial assistance is available.

## CONNECT WITH US

For more My Y Stories, to view video impact stories, or to sign up for Y-News please visit:

[YMCA-SNOCO.ORG/CONNECT](http://YMCA-SNOCO.ORG/CONNECT)



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

# PARTNER WITH US

## Strengthening Community YMCA CASINO ROAD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER



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## FEED OUR KIDS ONCE A MONTH

One in five Casino Road area students reports having to miss a meal within the last year because of a lack of food.

### Meal Program

Our YMCA seeks partner organizations to “Adopt A Day,” by committing to preparing a nutritious meal for 30 kids on the same day each month.

We serve two dinners during the week and lunch on Saturdays and Sundays.



### Two Options for our “Adopt A Meal” program:

1. Volunteers may prepare meals at our Center, serve, and eat with our kids, building relationships.
2. Volunteers may prepare meals in advance and drop them off at the Center. YMCA staff will serve to youth.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

48% of Horizon Elementary students speak a language other than English in their homes.

Change the life of a kid, teen, or adult by committing to a regular volunteer opportunity:

### Open Our Doors

Supervise the Center during weekdays while adult immigrants practice language, math, and other skills on our computers.

### Mentor

Volunteer in the Center on weekday afternoons or weekends, or with our Minority Achievers Program or Casino Road Scholars.

### Teach

Assist our lead teachers in our English as a Second Language (ESOL) or GED Preparation Classes.

### Nurture

Supervise young children, 3 months – 5 years old, in our Center while their parents attend classes.

### Guide

Serve on our Y Casino Road Advisory Group and help guide the direction of the Y’s work, recruit volunteers, and raise resources to support our kids and families.



## DONATE FOOD, SUPPLIES, OR FUNDS

88% of Horizon Elementary Students qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch.

Our YMCA depends on the generosity of donors to feed our kids and run our programs and the Center.

### Food

Nonperishable food, paper plates, plastic cutlery, napkins, and more.

### Supplies

Board games, books, arts & crafts, cleaning supplies, and supplies for kids’ activities.

## FUNDING LEVELS

**\$1,000** Gives one Casino Road Scholar at Horizon Elementary six months of daily mentoring, academic support, field trips, and opportunities to explore colleges and careers.

**\$500** Gives ten teens the opportunity to meet caring adults, set goals, and prepare for college through the Minority Achievers Program during the school year.

**\$250** Provides ten nights of meals for 20 youth at our Casino Road Youth Development Center.

**\$100** Funds five 1.5-hour sessions of free YMCA-led child care during our English classes, while parents attend class.

**\$50** Funds five free swim lessons for a Casino Road Youth at the Mukilteo YMCA.

**\$25** Funds one nutritious meal for 20 youth at our Casino Road Youth Development Center.