

HISTORY OF ADVENTURE GUIDES

The Adventure Guides program was started in 1920 by Harold S. Keitner, Director of the YMCA in St. Louis, his friend, Joe Friday, and William H. Hefelfinger, leader of the first YMCA Adventure Guides Circle. Initially a father/son program, Adventure Guides expanded after WWII to include all children.



The four compass points, represented in the Adventure Guide Compass as Family, Nature, Community & Fun provide the framework for the program's activities. The Y's four core values: Honesty, Respect, Caring & Responsibility, in conjunction with the four compass points, reinforce the Y's pledge to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities.



WINDWARD YMCA

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The Windward YMCA is one of the area's leading charitable 501(c)3 organizations. Our programs & services are open to all through our financial assistance program and the generosity of our members, donors, and partners.

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ADVENTURE GUIDES

WINDWARD YMCA



Adventure Guides



The Adventure Guides program launches parents and their children on a journey of discovery, with the child as the *explorer* and the parent as the *guide*. Adventure Guides encourages parents to *get to know your kid while your kid is still a kid* with group activities such as games, crafts, attending sporting events, camping, hiking, and ocean activities. The one-on-one time in a fun, special environment builds important bonds through shared experiences.



Participating in Adventure Guides:

- Fosters companionship and understanding and sets a foundation for positive, lifelong relationships between parent and child.
- Builds a sense of self-esteem and personal worth.
- Expands awareness of spirit, mind and body.
- Provides the framework to meet a mutual need of spending enjoyable, constructive and high-quality time together.
- Enhances the quality of family time.
- Emphasizes the role that parents play in the growth and development of their children.
- Offers an important and unique opportunity to develop and enjoy volunteer leadership skills.

Who Participates:

YMCA Adventure Guides is for fathers or other significant adults in children's lives and their children, ages 5 through 12. An adult and child attend all the program activities together.



How To Get Involved:

If you would like to join YMCA Adventure Guides, fill out the enclosed registration form and submit with payment to the Windward YMCA.

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