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YMCA Financial Assistance Program Gives Elkhorn Senior Citizen A Place to Belong & Build Memories

If you live in the Geneva Lakes area, you've probably seen her. She's known to many as the bike lady. Not a day goes by when you can't spot her pedaling her mountain bike from her home in Elkhorn to the Geneva Lakes Family YMCA.

Her name is Marilyn. She's a retired senior, and she's been making the 30-mile round trip to the Y and back home for years—too many for her to recall exactly, but she figures around 20.

While that number may be a bit fuzzy, what's crystal clear is the positive impact the YMCA and our financial assistance program has had in Marilyn's life.

Marilyn's Y story began when she was a young child. She has fond memories of coming to the Y with her brothers. They learned to play basketball together and would come shoot hoops every chance they could.

Today, decades later, shooting hoops at the Y is still one of her favorite activities, as well as swimming and joining in games of foosball in the Activity Room. Marilyn says these activities are the best part of her day.

"Maintaining a healthy mind, body, and spirit are a priority for me," Marilyn said, "And the Y helps me do that. When I come to the Y, everyone is so friendly and makes me feel welcomed. I feel like I'm a part of the community," she added.

Marilyn is very thankful for the support she receives at the Y and the relationships she has made.

"I just love the YMCA," Marilyn said. "If it wasn't for the Financial Assistance program, I wouldn't be able to be a member and continue making more Y memories," she said.



"If it wasn't for the Y's Financial Assistance program, I wouldn't be able to be a member and continue making more Y memories."

-Marilyn N.