



ALFOND YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTER



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Play It Forward Project: Sports Equipment Drive – Help Us Fill the Trailer!

Waterville, Maine – October 16, 2025 – The **Alfond Youth & Community Center (AYCC)** is calling on community members, teams, and local families to take part in the **Play It Forward Project: Sports Equipment Drive** – a community-wide effort to collect gently used and outgrown sporting gear to ensure that *every child has the equipment they need to play, grow, and thrive*.

Join us in the **AYCC side parking lot** (nearest the outdoor pool) from **9:00 AM-2:00 PM** to donate sporting equipment, athletic apparel, sneakers, cleats, and even old trophies. Your donations will help fill our new mobile sports trailer, which will bring *free athletic programming and sports supplies* directly into neighborhoods across Central Maine.

What We're Collecting

- Outgrown or lightly used sporting equipment
- Athletic apparel in good condition
- Sneakers and cleats of all sizes
- Trophies ready for a new shine and a new home

Monetary donations are also welcome and are tax-deductible, helping to expand access to youth sports programs and community fitness initiatives. <https://www.clubaycc.org/giving>

The “Play It Forward Project gives everyone the chance to make an impact,” says Beth LaFountain, AYCC Athletic Director. “By donating your gently used gear, you’re helping a child take their first shot, join their first team, or discover a lifelong love of sports.”

Whether you’re cleaning out the garage or supporting youth development, **every donation makes a difference**. Help us **fill the trailer** and fuel a movement of inclusion, play, and opportunity for all youth in Central Maine.



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Community Partners & Sponsors

The Play It Forward Project is proudly supported by a powerful team of community partners dedicated to youth sports and inclusion, including **Central Maine Motors Auto Group, Cal Ripken Baseball, Good Sports, Joseph's Sporting Goods, Only Pans, Steve's Heroes, the University of Maine at Orono, and USA Softball.**

Their generosity and collaboration are helping make it possible to expand access to athletic opportunities for youth and families across Central Maine.

Event Details

Date: Saturday, October 18

Time: 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Location: AYCC side parking lot (between AYCC & outdoor pool)

Contact: Athletics Team @ 207-873-0684 | athletics@clubaycc.org

If you're unable to stop by during the event, but would like to donate, please reach out to the athletics team, contact Beth directly, or visit our website:
<https://www.clubaycc.org/programs/youth/athletics/>

For media inquiries, interview requests, or additional information, please contact:

Beth LaFountain, Athletic Director

207-873-0684 x219 | blafountain@clubaycc.org

About the Alfond Youth & Community Center

The Alfond Youth & Community Center (AYCC) is the 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that operates the nation's only merged Boys and Girls Clubs and YMCA. Located in Central Maine, the dedicated staff of the 85,000-square-foot facility serves over 9,000 members from throughout the 50 communities of the Greater Waterville area.

A true youth and community center, the AYCC boasts childcare and afterschool programs, wellness, fitness, athletics, aquatics, martial arts, and summer camps.

www.clubaycc.org

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