

LEAPS Grant Information for Randall & Smith Families

YWCA Cortland's School-Age Program is a proud recipient of the LEAPS Grant (NYS Learning and Enrichment After School Program Supports).

What does this mean for the families at Randall and Smith? A FREE after-school program which includes **enriching programming for children AND parents.**

Please note: *this grant will ONLY cover after-school care; payment is still required for all other care provided by the YWCA. Should this funding end due to potential federal funding freezes, payment for care will be required.*

Benefits for Children: Children enrolled in this program will have access to after-school tutoring for Math and ELA as well as weekly social-emotional programming using several curriculums implemented by former YWCA Cortland Mentoring Director Mindy Gardner (G.I.R.L.S., Building Champions, and Incredible Years, etc).

These additional offerings aim to enhance participants' social-emotional competencies, promote empathy and conflict-resolution skills, and foster a sense of community. Group activities, facilitated by program staff, aim to encourage teamwork, cooperation, and peer interaction through various games, exercises, and projects. Different activities are planned each week to maintain engagement.

Benefits and Requirements for Parents: To receive this free care and as a benefit of the program, families are required to attend AT LEAST one session of an Empowered Parenting program from Empowered Educator Jenn Rafferty. This virtual course, *The Happiest Kid on the Block*, helps parents build supportive relationships with their child while addressing things like confidence/self-esteem, transitions, discipline, sleep, technology, and aggressive behavior.

Families can choose from three different options to complete this requirement: four live interactive workshops, ten virtual coaching sessions, or seven audio training courses. More information to follow. If parents/guardians do not attend the required number of sessions, their children will not be able to attend the program.

Benefits for our YWCA: Thanks to this grant, YWCA Cortland staff will receive specialized training from multiple resources: Devereux Advanced Behavioral Health trainer Tammy Goddard, OPEN Physical Education Curriculum National Trainer Nick Kline, and Empowered Educator Jenn Rafferty on emotional intelligence. They will also receive guidance from Cortland School District on teaching and reinforcing "ROAR" (Respectful, Open-Hearted, Act Safely, Responsible) values and expectations.