

## Julie's Y Story

Julie's Y story began with a childhood spent in the old building on 27<sup>th</sup> and Rockefeller here it turned into a lifelong relationship with a cause and a community she loves.

"I grew up going to the old Everett Y," she reflects, "and I started interning there in my early 20s, which led to my first full-time job."

That first job wasn't just a paycheck; it was a launching pad. Over the next 11 years, the Y gave her more than skills in youth development, nonprofit leadership, and fiscal management; it taught her something deeper. "At the core, relationships are what's most important."

Julie now serves on the Everett Y Branch Board and as the City of Everett's Community Development Director. She continues to build bridges between the Y and her city, guided by a belief that community thrives when we connect with care and respect.

"Community means connections," she says. "Whether deep or in passing, how we choose to treat each other is what matters most."

Last year, Julie was honored as the Everett Family YMCA's Advisory Volunteer of the Year. A recognition that reflects her decades of service, her unwavering support, and her genuine love for the Y community.

"I feel that when I am at the Y, at a Y event, or sharing the Y in the community," she says. "We share the values of caring, community, and respect."

From aerobics in the '80s to yoga twice a week today, from staff to mom to board member, Julie has lived nearly every role the Y has to offer. And through each chapter, Julie says one truth has remained, "the Y continues to connect people together in healthy and meaningful ways."

To learn more about volunteering opportunities, visit [ymca-snoco.org/volunteer](https://ymca-snoco.org/volunteer).