



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

MAKE YOUR CASE TO ATTEND THE 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TALKING POINTS TO USE WITH YOUR SUPERVISOR OR CEO

The General Assembly of YMCAs (GA) is a one-of-a-kind professional development opportunity that can help you grow in your role and career. Use the talking points below to help you have a conversation with your supervisor or CEO about how attending GA can benefit you and your Y. Feel free to customize the points that are relevant to your job role and interests. [Learn more about GA.](#)

NOTE: Speakers and other agenda information will be available in December 2025 at ga.ymca.org.

- **General Assembly will help me grow as a professional and equip me with skills to bring back to our Y.**
 - General Assembly features nationally recognized speakers and thought leaders who will give me insight into the Y's strategic focus on creating connected communities, especially related to **[insert issue(s) that you are working on locally]**.
 - I will be able to attend professional development workshops designed to empower attendees with innovative tools, actionable strategies, and insights from some of the Y's most dynamic leaders and national subject matter experts.
 - I can create a personalized GA experience by selecting from workshops in the themes of Leadership Excellence, Organizational Excellence, Board Excellence, Operational Excellence, Creating Connection, Celebrating Legacy, Leading Practices, Multicultural Experience at GA, and TED-style seminars.
 - I can meaningfully connect and engage with colleagues across the Movement through the Multicultural Experience at General Assembly (ME at GA). For the first time, the ME at GA preconference session will be offered at no additional cost to attendees (as capacity allows) and does not require any additional travel days. Plus, ME components will be offered throughout the entire conference for all GA attendees to experience.
- **I can expand our Y's resource network by connecting with hundreds of vendors and YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) staff.**
 - General Assembly features the Y's largest vendor exhibition, where I'll be able to learn about the latest fitness, technology, maintenance, and program solutions and build relationships with vendors who can help us achieve our goals.
 - I can speak with Y-USA staff about national initiatives and the resources available to support our work in **[insert specific areas your Y may need support on]**.
- **I will be able to network with thousands of YMCA staff and volunteers from across the country.**
 - Over 5,000 Y professionals are expected to attend General Assembly. By connecting with colleagues from across the country, I will find out what other Ys like ours are doing

in **[insert your specific area of work]** and discover new strategies that I can apply to my work.

- The relationships I build at General Assembly will continue virtually after I return home. I'll have a new network of people to learn from and share ideas with related to **[insert specific initiatives at your Y]**.

- **General Assembly will connect me to our Movement's leaders and the full scope of the Y's impact across the nation.**

- At General Assembly, I will engage in dynamic programming on the main stage, in breakout sessions, and in the Exhibit Hall about the Y's focus on addressing social isolation and vision for creating connected communities. I will return to our ready to put inspiration into action on this important issue.
- I will gain a deeper appreciation for how my work locally contributes to the Y's impact nationally. I can share that knowledge with my colleagues when I return home so we all understand how our Y's community-driven work supports the Y's national strategic focus on creating connected communities.
- As a growing professional committed to the Y, I'm eager to connect with local and national leaders to better understand the types of career paths that are open to me.

- **I know that General Assembly will be an energizing experience that will help me contribute to our Y's mission even more effectively. I look forward to bringing back inspiration and learnings to share with our team.**

MORE INFORMATION

Save \$150 with Early Bird registration, which starts Dec. 8, 2025 and runs through Feb. 8, 2026. [Find GA estimated costs and budgeting tips here.](#)

If you have questions or need additional information to help you discuss General Assembly with your supervisor or CEO, please visit ga.ymca.org or email general.assembly@ymca.net.