LEARNING THE RIGHT CROSS

Now in its third year, the YMCA Boxing program continues making an impact in our community. To date, our team has obtained over a dozen state, regional, and world titles through competitions such as Golden Gloves, Silver Gloves, Jr. Olympics, and the Ringside World Championships.

These achievements are admirable, but what is most significant is the impact in the lives of youth. Our mission is to influence youth through the sport of boxing by improving self-confidence and instilling discipline and work ethic.

More importantly, we aim to help our youth build a foundation in Christ which we see as the most essential aspect of our program.

The following testimony comes from a young man named Raymon who benefited greatly from the sport of boxing and our program.

Growing up in the inner-city of Evansville, with a single mother of 7, I’ve had to overcome a lot of obstacles. Boxing has helped me so much though. It’s given me a safe place to train instead of being on the streets.

A lot of the kids in my neighborhood that I grew up with are in gangs or doing drugs, and I know that it could have been me in that situation. Boxing has taught me discipline and helped me become a better person.

The coaches really care about us and help us in so many ways, not just with learning how to box. They help us with college and get us involved in community activities. They also pray for us and talk to us about God.

Boxing gives me an opportunity to be a positive role model to younger inner-city kids. They see me doing good things with my life, and it inspires them to do the same.

— Raymon Henry
Boxing Program Participant