



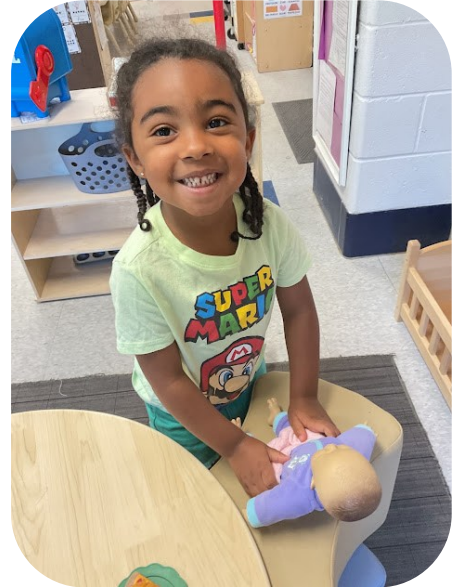
**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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My Y Story **Charlaine Allesandrine**

I have been a Meriden YMCA member since May 2024, and my daughter started at Meriden YMCA Little Panthers Child Care in September 2025. Before that, she was home with her grandma, so starting child care was a big transition for both of us.

When we toured Little Panthers, my daughter immediately made a connection with the teachers. They were so supportive and reassuring as they helped both of us adjust. They even keep a photo of our family there to help comfort her when she misses us.

What I love most is seeing how much joy the program brings her. She is happy and excited when I drop her off. On the weekends, she wants to make pictures for her teachers and tells me all about her friends.



As a parent, I'm trusting them with one of the most precious people in my life, and I take that level of trust to heart. I know she is not only well taken care of, but truly cared about. The activities are excellent, too. One day she came home so excited and said, "Mommy, I wrote my name today!" Seeing her learn and grow makes me so happy.

I also love that the program is located at the high school. The children get to use the track and be part of school activities like pep rallies, which makes for some really special experiences.

The Y has become a place for our whole family. My daughter also takes swim lessons and gymnastics, and my son attended summer camp and really enjoyed it. It's wonderful to have a place in our community where kids can be kids and have fun in a safe environment.

If a friend asked me about Little Panthers Child Care, I would tell them to definitely sign up. You can see the care and passion the teachers bring to their work. You can feel good knowing your child is safe and cared for—and you'll see the joy your child feels being there.

I highly recommend it!

MERIDEN-NEW BRITAIN-BERLIN YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

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