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## KEARNEY FAMILY YMCA INTRODUCES AUTOMATIC DRAFTING INTO CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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### SOLUTION OVERVIEW

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#### Challenge

With Kearney's growing childcare program, processing payments had become an inefficient and time-consuming routine. Staff were transformed into collection agents – unable to focus 100% of their energy on providing the highest quality childcare.

#### Solution:

The key to improving Kearney's childcare operations was to automate the payment process, resulting in more time for staff and greater convenience for parents.

#### Benefit:

The introduction of automated drafting for childcare payments has been well received. The YMCA estimates that 15 hours per week are saved on processing and collecting payments.

#### Technology Implemented:

The YMCA launched DAXKO Operations in May 2005 and began moving parents to automatic draft in September. Within two months the YMCA moved nearly 75% of all childcare payments to draft, resulting in an annual savings of \$5,500.

*“DAXKO Operations has freed our staff from the administrative burden of childcare operations and allowed us to focus on what's truly important.”*

- Denny Placzek  
Director of Business Operations

Serving as the largest childcare provider in their community, the Kearney Family YMCA operates a \$500,000 Child Development Center. After launching DAXKO Operations, the center introduced automatic drafting capabilities into its childcare program. Since September, Kearney has succeeded in moving almost 75 percent of payments to automatic draft.

#### Life Prior to Auto-Draft

Upon examination, the YMCA found that excessive amounts of time were spent generating weekly childcare statements. Collection was an ineffective and often tedious process for staff members. With full-time childcare, after-school care, and pre-school representing approximately one-third of the YMCA's income, they needed a more efficient way to operate.

#### Making the Switch

Kearney's initial efforts to move parents to automatic draft were well received. The YMCA mailed a letter to participants explaining the logistics and benefits of the new process. The majority signed up immediately. New enrollments in the program are now automatically set up on automatic draft. The YMCA has even collaborated with the local bank to offer free checking accounts to those in need.

#### Life After Auto-Draft

Automatic drafting has proven a win-win for everyone. Parents love the convenience of the process. They no longer have to write a check each week, and DAXKO Operations allows the association to offer flexible payment arrangements involving multiple payers who can draft on a schedule that matches their specific needs. YMCA staff are also excited over the significant reduction in



## Association Profile:

The Kearney Family YMCA (Nebraska) serves as the largest childcare provider in their community. One-third of their \$1.65 million operating budget is dedicated to childcare.

To learn more about the Kearney Family YMCA, visit their website at [www.kearneyymca.org](http://www.kearneyymca.org)

administrative workload. Several have even been overheard saying that they “can’t imagine going back to the way it was before.”

## Experiencing the Results

With the implementation and adoption of automatic drafting, Kearney has eliminated more than 15 hours per week in processing and collection. That reduction can be translated into an estimated \$5,500 in labor savings each year. Through the significant decline in paperwork and collection times, DAXKO Operations has helped to boost the YMCA’s financial performance and ability to grow its childcare program in the future.