

# message from the CEO

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg is fortunate to have volunteers who are deeply committed to growing and advancing the mission and purpose of our organization.

In the past six years, Anne M. Shuman has been a powerful voice for change during her tenure on the Association Board. We want to recognize and thank Anne, outgoing Board President, for all of her contributions to the YWCA. We look forward to her continued involvement as a member of the Executive Committee.



Anne M. Shuman

The YWCA is honored to introduce Cari Longyear as the 2015-2016 Association Board President. Cari is a long-term volunteer of the YWCA, has served on many committees and is active in countless mission-directed events. Recently, she participated in the YWCA's six-week racial justice workshop, "Let's Talk: A Conversation About Race," and she and Anne hosted a fundraiser for the YWCA.



Cari Longyear

We owe a debt of appreciation to **all** of our Board members and volunteers. With their help, we will continue to be a force for change.

## Brittany's story: From survivor to thriver

Brittany was sexually abused by a relative from the time she was a young child through her early teens. She sought counseling in her 20s that gave her the courage to reveal the abuse to her family and to finally confront her abuser. Click here to find out how Brittany is now helping others as a Volunteer Victim Advocate with the YWCA's Violence Intervention and Prevention Programs.





The 10th annual Power of Style Fashion Show will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 7 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Radisson, Camp Hill. Seats are selling fast, so don't wait to reserve yours! Call 717-724-2248 today!

## racial justice @ the ywca



State Rep. Patty Kim speaks during an Aug. 17 vigil in Harrisburg that was held in response to the Michael Brown shooting. Photo courtesy of PennLive.

YWCA takes proactive measures in response to Ferguson tragedy

The YWCA has been closely following the tragic and senseless situation in Ferguson, Mo., where 18-year-old Michael Brown, a young black man, was shot and killed by a white police officer on Aug. 9.

As Ferguson residents reacted with protests and calls for justice, we and the rest of the world have watched in alarm as the protests are met with a military-

style response. While there are many issues at play here, yet another fatal shooting of an unarmed black man by those "pledged to protect and serve" raises important questions about the insidious nature of racial profiling and violence against people of color in our country.

The YWCA has and will continue to participate in several vigils and community conversations, including the upcoming "Ferguson Forum: Can We Prevent It From Happening Here?" on Monday, Sept. 8 at 6 p.m. at the Midtown Scholar Bookstore. The YWCA also continues to be an active member of the Community Responders Network and is partnering with local law enforcement to develop and implement training and other measures focused on reducing racial profiling and improving police-community relations in our city.

#### "Let's Talk" program expands this fall

The YWCA is thrilled that as a result of the success of its pilot series, "Let's Talk: A Conversation About Race," participating organizations will host the program at their respective sites starting this month. Harrisburg School District superintendent Dr. Sybil Knight-Burney is hosting a series for the school district's social workers and school counselors. Additionally, LGBT Center Executive Director Louie Marven is hosting a series with leaders from the LGBT community at the center in downtown Harrisburg. YWCA Racial Justice Program Coordinator Amanda Arbour will cofacilitate both sessions.

#### Diversity Days @ Camp Reily a success

The YWCA is pleased with the success of its new "Diversity Days" program, developed in collaboration with the Community Responders Network, which integrated an important diversity component into the YWCA's Camp Reily summer camp.

Every Friday for nine weeks, the program engaged children ages 6-12 to help them understand concepts of diversity in age-appropriate ways, develop a positive sense of their own identity and instill positive ways of interacting with those who are different from them. Weekly sessions focused on specific topics, including race, immigration, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disabilities and class.



Larry Colbert and members of K-Songz lead campers in song during the final day of summer camp at Camp Reily.

The closing program, held on the final day of camp, brought everything together for the children – reviewing what they'd learned using interactive activities led by Larry Colbert and his team from K-Songz.

#### For more information

For more information about the YWCA's Racial Justice Programs, please contact Amanda Arbour at AArbour@ywcahbg.org or 717-234-7931 x3057.

### **Events planned to mark DVAM in October**

The YWCA's Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Programs will mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a variety of events in the month of October.

- October 3 A breakfast honoring first responders will be held at 8 a.m. in the YWCA Highmark Room. Keynote speaker is Dauphin County District Attorney Ed Marsico.
- October 13 Week Without Violence: #Harvest4Hope One in four women experience domestic violence in their lifetime. What will YOU do to end domestic violence? Visit #Harvest4Hope and share your four words to end domestic violence.
- October 15 A Harvest4Hope Festival featuring food, music, vendors and educational activities will be held from 4-7 p.m. at the YWCA. A candlelight vigil to remember victims of domestic violence will take place at 6 p.m.
- October 22 "When the Golden Years Turn Black and Blue," a professional training to identify and respond to elder victims of domestic and sexual violence, will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the YWCA.





# Junior Board brewing up another fun Fall Fest

al Fall Fest will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 4-7 p.m. at the YWCA's Camp Reily, 300 Camp Reily Road, Harrisburg.

The event will feature beer tasting, food and beverages, and live music by local singer/songwriter Doug Burlew. All

proceeds benefit Camp Reily.

Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased at <a href="https:/www.ywcahbg.org/events">www.ywcahbg.org/events</a> or by contacting Liz Martin at 717-234-7931 x3056.

# yw snapshots



On Sept. 5, more than 100 volunteers worked on a variety of projects at the YWCA's John Crain Kunkel Center, Camp Reily and the Center for Employment, Education and Entrepreneurial Development as part of the 2014 United Way Day of Caring.



Rachael Woltman, a summer employee in the Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center, paints a scene from "The Giving Tree" on the center's entrance doors.



Woltman painted kid-friendly scenes on the doors of each of the Center's classrooms, including this scene from "Where the Wild Things Are."



Members of the Central Dauphin High School Ram Marching Band worked on multiple projects at the YWCA's John Crain Kunkel Center as part of a day of service on Aug. 8.



Samantha Hendrickson answers questions during Duncannon's National Night Out event on Aug. 5. Representatives from the YWCA's Violence Intervention and Prevention Programs attended similar events throughout the greater Harrisburg area.

### **Upcoming events**

- Sept. 11 Project Homeless Connect
- Sept. 24 YWCA Annual Meeting
- October Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Oct. 3 First Responders Breakfast
- Oct. 4 Junior Board 5th Annual Fall Fest
- Oct. 7 Power of Style Fashion Show
- Oct. 15 Harvest4Hope Festival
- Dec. 4 Pursuit of Justice Purse Auction
- Dec. 15-20 Holiday Giving Program



Celebrating 120 years of eliminating racism and empowering women!





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