



our voice

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
greater harrisburg

message from the CEO

Last year our donors did something incredible! With their generous support, we leveraged a \$500,000 grant from the Stabler Family Foundation into \$1 million in support for renovations to our primary service site in Allison Hill.



We are a long way from completing necessary upgrades, and we will continue to seek funding to enable us to do an estimated \$3 million of work, but some of our most heavily utilized spaces have been transformed. Stop by to see for yourself!

While upkeep of our primary facility is essential, maintaining the quality and success of our programs is always at the forefront of our efforts. The sequestration and subsequent government shutdown resulted in significant delays in essential funding streams. In covering payroll and other operating expenses, we now find ourselves in a deficit. In order to ensure the future of our services, we rely on generous individuals in the community.

Let me tell you about some of the unique ways in which individuals have supported the YWCA in the past year. Felicia Brown-Haywood, a past board member and Tribute to Women of Excellence honoree, recorded a very powerful CD, *Singing My Way Through*, combining historical context for and performance of African-American spirituals. Proceeds support our domestic violence services.

Another community member established the Underwear Pajamas and Socks (UPS) Fund to provide all children living at the YWCA with new, properly sized items. Carolyne Smith, a TWE Legacy Honoree, established the In-A-Pinch Fund. Reintroduced posthumously this summer, the fund has raised thousands of dollars. Proceeds enable women to apply for small, one-time loans used to purchase small items like eyeglasses, appropriate work shoes or uniforms and other necessities in preparation for returning to the workforce.

Each of these efforts demonstrates THE POWER of ONE! You, too, can make a difference in the lives our clients with a generous, **unrestricted** gift. Please consider a contribution to the YWCA today. The investment you make will increase our ability to transform the lives of those in our community!

Thank you in advance for your support.



YWCA offers a Safe Haven for homeless women



It has been almost a year since the YWCA began developing Safe Haven, a residential program for chronically homeless women who have mental health issues. Six women now reside at Safe Haven and are working to turn their lives around.

Safe Haven's first client, Brenda, had been living on the street for more than a year while battling drug addiction and mental illness. [Click here to read about the impact Safe Haven is having on her life.](#)

racial justice @ the ywca

YWCA celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month 2013

This fall, the YWCA celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a variety of fun and educational activities. Observed across the nation every year from September 15 to October 15, Hispanic Heritage Month's 2013 theme was "Hispanics: Serving and Leading our Nation with Pride and Honor."

Highlights of the month's activities at the YWCA included:



YWCA staff members sample Hispanic dishes during the annual potluck on Oct. 9.

- A Latino Leaders Forum on September 18 featured Gloria Merrick, Maria Montero, Esmeralda Hetrick and Nancy Chavez speaking on the topics of immigration and Hispanic heritage, education, healthcare, and creating safer communities, respectively.
- YWCA staff cooked a variety of Hispanic dishes to share at the annual potluck on October 9, which included music and several educational games to test our staff's knowledge of key information about Hispanic countries.

'Spanish for Social Services' classes offered

The YWCA hosted a six-week "Spanish for Social Services" class for staff that was taught by Duane Shearer, Executive Director of Danzante Community Arts Center. Learning basic grammar and vocabulary relevant to social services work, staff focused on developing conversational skills to aid in better serving the Spanish-speaking community. Ten YWCA staff completed the series. We are grateful to Duane for partnering with the YWCA!

For more information

For more information about our racial justice programs, please contact Racial Justice Development Specialist Amanda Arbour at AArbour@ywcahbg.org or 717-234-7931 x3057.

Fashion makes a statement at the Power of Style 2013

Held at the West Shore Country Club on Oct. 10, the 9th Annual Power of Style Fashion Show was a great success! More



than 300 women attended the Domestic Violence Awareness event, which raised more than \$40,000 for the YWCA's Violence Intervention and Prevention programs.

Featuring seasonal fashions from nine local, women-owned businesses, the sold-out event was emceed by the exuberant Sherry Christian, CBS21 news anchor. A wide variety of raffle and silent auction items, as well as the grand prize from Higashi Jewelry & Eyewear, added to the festivities.



YWCA Association Board member Susan Hubley models an outfit from Creative Elegance Boutique.

Special thanks to Power of Style co-chairs Michelle Piscioneri and Bebe Mullaugh and the many volunteers who worked tirelessly to make the event a success.

The Power of Style Fashion Show is the YWCA Friends Board's signature fundraising event. Over the last nine years, it has successfully raised more than \$250,000.

Thank you Power of Style sponsors!

Four Carat Sponsor Wood, Myers & Hartman Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Three Carat Sponsors

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- PinnacleHealth
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YWCA CEO Tina Nixon presents an award during the First Responders Breakfast on Oct. 4.



Violence Intervention and Prevention program staff wear purple to mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month.



Guests view the exhibit "Our Voices: Refugee & Immigrant Women Tell Their Stories."

Events mark Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October was Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and the YWCA hosted several events to educate the community and honor survivors and those whose lives have been lost to acts of domestic violence.

The 8th annual First Responders Breakfast on Oct. 4 celebrated the contributions of first responder's and other professionals who work tirelessly to respond to domestic violence and honor those who have demonstrated outstanding service to domestic violence victims and survivors.

On October 16, as part of its Week without Violence initiative, the YWCA featured the Pennsylvania Immigrant & Refugee Women's Network's "Our Voices" exhibit. The exhibit featured photographs and stories of immigrant women in the Harrisburg community and their stories of struggle and empowerment.

The Hershey Medical Center also joined the YWCA in raising awareness of domestic violence by displaying purple crescent lighting on its campus.

To continue the dialogue and awareness created this month, the YWCA will open enrollment of its Victim Advocate Training to the public. This training provides certification as a domestic violence and sexual assault advocate and qualifies the trainee to work with domestic violence or sexual assault advocacy organizations across Pennsylvania. Residents of Dauphin and Perry counties are welcome to

register. Classes will begin in early March 2014. For more information about this program, please e-mail John Leedock at JLeedock@ywcahbg.org or call 717-238-7273.



It's time to nominate a woman for the 25th Annual **Tribute to Women of Excellence** awards dinner on March 25, 2014, at the Hershey Lodge.

Over the past 24 years, the YWCA has honored more than 500 extraordinary women for their impact on our region, both professionally and philanthropically. During 2014's Silver Anniversary Celebration, we look forward to honoring 25 Women of Excellence who make a difference in Central Pennsylvania.

To download the nomination form, please visit www.ywcahbg.org/events/25th-annual-tribute-women-excellence. For sponsorship opportunities and additional information, call Devan Drabik at 717-724-2248. The deadline to nominate a Woman of Excellence is Nov. 15.

Junior Board brews up a successful Fall Fest

The first Saturday in October is always an exciting day for the YWCA's Junior Board. It's when months of planning and preparation culminate in Fall Fest, the group's signature fundraising event.

Held in Camp Reily's rustic lodge on October 5, Fall Fest 2013 featured beer tasting, great food and live entertainment by local musicians. More than 100 people attended the fourth-annual event, which raised \$6,700 to benefit Camp Reily and its programs.



Junior Board members Lissa Richards (from left), Jade Herbst, Ashley Flower, Gwenn Dando and Toni Theis work the registration table during Fall Fest on Oct. 5.

More than 100 inner-city children have the opportunity to attend the YWCA's rural day camp each week during the summer and participate in a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, sports, swimming lessons, and character- and team-building exercises.

The Junior Board has adopted the 83-year-old camp as its special project. For the past four years, members have spearheaded an annual camp clean-up day. Funds raised by the Junior Board have been used to make repairs to camp facilities, provide sponsorships for campers, and purchase summer camp supplies and equipment. For more information about the Junior Board, contact president Kelley Kaufman at kelly.kaufman@gmail.com.

yw snapshots



Volunteers from Journal Multimedia, PNC, Reynolds Construction and Xerox worked on multiple projects in YWCA programs during the 2013 United Way Day of Caring on Sept. 6.



YWCA CEO Tina Nixon, right, presents Frannie McNichol with the Reily Award during the YWCA's Annual Meeting on Sept. 24.



Harrisburg mayoral candidates Eric Papenfuse, left, and Dan Miller speak during a Candidates Night on Oct. 1 that was sponsored by the YWCA and the United Way of the Capital Region.



On Halloween, children from the YWCA's Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center paraded through the Highmark Room and received lots of treats from staffers.



Representatives from JFC Staffing speak with a participant during the Supported Employment program's Oct. 2 job fair. Twenty-two employers were represented and an estimated 250 people attended the job fair.



Project Homeless Connect volunteers receive instructions prior to the Sept. 25 event at the Farm Show Complex. More than 300 volunteers and 81 service providers served 352 homeless or near-homeless persons during the one-day event.

Upcoming events

- Annual Resident Thanksgiving Dinner - Nov. 18
- Pursuit of Justice Purse Auction - Dec. 5
- Holiday Giving Program - Dec. 16-20
- Tribute to Women of Excellence - March 25, 2014
- Race Against Racism - April 26, 2014

For more information about our events, please visit www.ywcahbg.org.

Please consider making a donation to the YWCA. [Click here to donate online.](#)



