



our voice

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
greater harrisburg

YWCA Greater Harrisburg is represented at international leadership conference in Barbados

In June, YWCA Fundraising and Publications Manager Devan Drabik attended the North American & Caribbean Region Young Women's Leadership Conference in Bridgetown, Barbados. Nearly 100 young women from a dozen countries gathered for this three-day conference to develop an Action Plan to be presented at the World YWCA Council in Bangkok, Thailand, in 2015.



Each country was tasked with the selection of one representative and one alternate to serve on the YWL Action Planning Committee for the 2013-2015 term. Ms. Drabik was voted as the alternate representative from the United States and is currently working with APC representative Jenna Lodge to ensure the goals of the YWCA USA are clearly reflected in the final Action Plan.



Devan Drabik, left, and Miesha Hill, right, from the YWCA of York, visit with Barbados Prime Minister Freundel Stuart during a private reception at his residence.

Conference participants also attended training sessions on leadership development, violence against women, HIV/AIDS and advocacy. Documentary filmmaker Abigail Disney presented her film "Women, War, and Peace" and shared her incredible passion for women's rights. Other speakers included Deborah Thomas-Austin, World YWCA Board President; Dr. Anita Davis-Defoe, YWCA US Virgin Islands; Ping Lee, YWCA Taiwan; and many other incredible leaders.

Additionally, Prime Minister Freundel Stuart welcomed conference participants to a private reception at his residence on June 20 and thanked the YWCA advocates for the important work they are doing not only in Barbados but around the world.

Junior Board hosts happy hour fundraiser

The YWCA's Junior Board hosted its fourth annual happy hour fundraiser on June 20 at Molly Brannigans Irish Pub and Restaurant in Harrisburg. The event drew a large crowd and raised \$1,188 to benefit the YWCA's Camp Reily.



Celebrity bartenders Sara Bozich, far left, and John Micek, far right, serve up drinks during the Junior Board's happy hour fundraiser.

Celebrity bartenders Sara Bozich and John Micek were behind the bar serving drinks, with 100 percent of their tips donated to the YWCA. Molly Brannigans also donated five percent of sales during the final hour of the event. Bozich writes a weekly column for The Patriot-News and is owner/editor of

SaraBozich.com. Micek is the editorial and opinions editor for The Patriot-News. abc27 reporter Dave Marcheskie emceed the event.

"Since its inception, the Junior Board has initiated and coordinated a variety of creative ways to raise funds vital to the YWCA's Camp Reily," said YWCA Executive Vice President Pamela Rhoads. "The annual spring happy hour is a particularly fun event that features a celebrity bartender and fantastic raffle prizes. The proceeds are used to purchase items for camp that encourage team building, physical coordination and FUN."

The Junior Board is comprised of women ages 21-35 who dedicate their time and talents in support of YWCA programs including Camp Reily. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Junior Board, please contact Lissa Richards at lissa.richards@gmail.com.

Another fun summer season kicks off at Camp Reily

The 2013 summer camping season kicked off June 10 at Camp Reily, the YWCA's 27-acre facility off Fishing Creek Valley Road.



More than 100 children ages 6-12 will be participating in camp this summer. Camp Reily's facilities include a lodge, cabins, a swimming pool and three acres of hiking trails.

"Camp Reily primarily serves underprivileged children," said Fianne van Schaaik, YWCA Director of Child Development Programs. "Our program is focused around team-building and life-skills activities, field trips, the arts, physical education, swimming lessons, math and science, enrichment activities and tutoring."

Paraphrasing poet/author Maya Angelou, van Schaaik added: "Our children mostly learn in life how to survive. Our camp mission is to let them thrive, and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style."



YWCA recertified with PANO Seal of Excellence

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg



is pleased to announce that it was recertified in March with the Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) Seal of Excellence. We first received the Seal in November 2004 and were recertified in January 2008.

This Seal designates successful, continued compliance with the Standards for Excellence: An Ethics and Accountability Code for the

Nonprofit Sector. A group of independent peer reviewers completed a rigorous ethics checkup during which time all of the YWCA's operations, work and accomplishments were evaluated. We passed the review with flying colors. The Seal of Excellence is granted to well-managed, responsibly governed organizations that are deserving of the public's trust.

A panel of three trained peer reviewers conducted the review. The YWCA's operations were found to meet the high standards set forth in PANO's Standards for Excellence.



YWCA Fundraising and Publications Manager Devan Drabik, center, accepts the YWCA's PANO recertification certificate during the PANO Standards for Excellence Ceremony.



Festival celebrates cultural diversity of Allison Hill

The 11th annual South Allison Hill Multicultural Festival took place May 4 at the Boys and Girls Club on Berryhill Street. A full ensemble of groups marched down Derry Street in the parade, and Harrisburg Mayor Linda Thompson kicked off the event with opening remarks.

An impressive lineup of local talent performed on the stage throughout the afternoon, and more than 25 community agencies had information booths to share their services with neighborhood residents. A variety of local food vendors served their specialties, and an assortment of kids' games rounded out a fun day for the whole family.

Many thanks to all of our sponsors, the planning team, and each of the participants, volunteers and community members who came out to make this event a success!

yw snapshots



Dr. Felicia Brown-Haywood performs during the release party for her CD "Singing My Way Through in Sacred Face" June 6 at the YWCA.



Members of the YWCA's Junior Gardeners have fun creating "fairy gardens" using moss, sticks, plants and other items from nature.



Staff members enjoy dishes from India, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Japan and the Hawaiian Islands to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May.



YWCA Greater Harrisburg CEO Tina Nixon attended the National YWCA Conference in Washington, D.C., where she met with U.S. Rep. Scott Perry (R-York).



Ann Van Dyke speaks during an informational gathering of the Community Responders Network on May 28 at the YWCA.



Cards with Heart Campaign co-chairs Kara Arnold, from left, and Amy Gambill join painter Julie Riker during the March 15 Artist's Reception at City House B&B.

Upcoming Events

- Annual Meeting - September 24
- Project Homeless Connect - September 25
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month - October
- United Way/YWCA Mayoral and City Council Candidates Night - October 1
- First Responders Breakfast - October 4
- 4th annual Junior Board Fall Fest - October 5
- Power of Style Fashion Show - October 10
- Pursuit of Justice Purse Auction - December 5

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

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

After careful consideration and deliberation, the Association Board of Directors' Executive Committee voted to cease operations at the YWCA's Kids on Campus Child Development Center in Enola.

The program has been operating with a significant deficit for the past several years. "We have made every attempt to turn the situation around," said Tina Nixon, CEO. "Unfortunately, due to significant budget cuts to state funding and other funding streams, the situation is no longer sustainable."

The center will remain open until August 30. The YWCA wishes to thank the dedicated staff at Kids on Campus for their dedication and commitment to providing quality care to children.



