



our voice

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
greater harrisburg

message from the CEO

It doesn't seem possible that the kids are already back in school. It was a very busy summer for the YWCA.

Firstly, some staff news: We are excited to welcome Mary Quinn to our leadership team as Vice President of Programs. Mary comes to us from the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, where she spent 13 years working with counties on drug and alcohol policies.



The creation of this position will enable George Payne, Vice President of Grants and Strategic Development, to focus on securing critical grant funding necessary to support the ongoing provision of quality programs and direct services to the 22,000 individuals served each year by the YWCA. He will also be developing a plan to launch social enterprise efforts to further strengthen the YWCA's balance sheet.

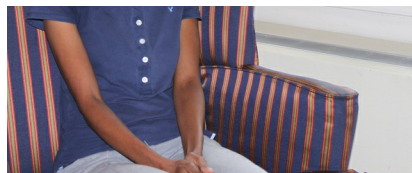
Having spent more than a year evaluating our child development programs, we came to some difficult but necessary conclusions. In May, the Executive Committee of the Association Board of Directors voted, for financial reasons, to cease operations at the Kids on Campus child care center in Enola. It was with great sadness that the collaboration with Central Penn College ended on August 23. On a brighter note, Fianne van Schaaijk was hired as the Director of Child Development Programs and is focused on expanding the scope of the GirlTalk and Club Ophelia programs to reach and empower even more young women.

If you haven't been to the YWCA in the past month or so, please plan a visit! We have a new look in the Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center - see if you can figure out the mystery of the beautiful new flooring in the after-school room. And the administrative area is bright and welcoming. We look forward to seeing you!

Getting a fresh start with help from the YWCA



Shannon moved to Harrisburg three months ago seeking a fresh start after enduring years of physical and emotional abuse by an ex-boyfriend.



With the help of the YWCA Greater Harrisburg and other local agencies, she is overcoming obstacles and is well on her way to building a new life. [Click here to read more about Shannon.](#)

racial justice @ the ywca

Exciting expansion of Community Responders Network

On July 29, the YWCA hosted an orientation for new members of the Community Responders Network.



COMMUNITY RESPONDERS NETWORK

As a result of our spring launch, more than 30 individuals representing a wide variety of nonprofit, faith-based and government entities joined the network, significantly bolstering our ability to prevent and respond to instances of bias and intolerance in the Capital Region.

The network now has an active Prevention & Education Team and Rapid Response Team, and there are a variety of opportunities to get involved!

Coming up . . . Hispanic Heritage Month

This fall, the YWCA will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15. In keeping with this year's theme – "Hispanics: Serving and Leading our Nation with Pride and Honor" – the YWCA will be hosting a Latino Leaders Forum on Wednesday, September 18 at 6 p.m.

The forum will highlight the leadership and key contributions of Latino leaders in our community. Maria Montero, Esmeralda Hetrick, Gloria Merrick and Nancy Chavez will speak about education, health care and immigration, Hispanic heritage in Harrisburg, and creating safer communities, respectively. We hope that you can join us for this exciting event!

Want to participate?

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



Holiday Giving in the works

It may be the dog days of summer, but plans are already under way for the YWCA's 2013 Holiday Giving Program.

In 2012, the program collected more than \$38,000 worth of gifts that helped make the holiday season special for more than 440

women, children and men who are enrolled in YWCA programs. YWCA clients identify two needs and one wish and are matched with generous donors from the community.

There are many ways to participate in this year's Holiday Giving Program, from adopting an individual or family, to donating an item from the general list or

volunteering your time to wrap gifts.

To get involved in this year's Holiday Giving Program, please contact Liz Martin at 717-234-7931 x3056 or lmartin@ywcahbg.org.

yw snapshots



Friends Board members Amy Gambill, left, and Marie Schleicher chat during a YWCA board mixer held on Aug. 1 at Cornerstone Coffeehouse.



Children from the YWCA's Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center took a field trip on Aug. 2 to the Five Senses Gardens, located in the Capital Area Greenbelt.



Participants of the YWCA Ambassadors Training Program gathered for their final training on Aug. 14. Graduates are equipped to serve as spokeswomen in the community for the YWCA and its programs.



YWCA staff members Fianne Van Schaik, right, and Chantal Rukundo-Karaara celebrate Chantal's bingo win during the YWCA staff picnic on Aug. 23 at Camp Reily.



Junior Gardeners harvested potatoes, cucumbers, carrots and other produce from their vegetable garden located on the grounds of the John Crain Kunkel Center.



About 20 members of the Central Dauphin Ram Band helped spruce up the grounds of the John Crain Kunkel Center on Aug. 9 as part of the band's service day.

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 (Sold out!)
- Pursuit of Justice Purse Auction - December 5
- Holiday Giving Program - December 16-20

For more information about our events, please visit www.ywcahbg.org.
Please consider making a donation to the YWCA. [Click here to donate online.](#)



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