



for every woman

2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

YWCA GREATER HARRISBURG

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

for every woman who confronts a glass ceiling and...

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mission



The YWCA Greater Harrisburg is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg is a force for change. Eliminating racism, empowering women and transforming the lives of 22,000 individuals each year, the YWCA provides safe housing, crisis services, life skills, job training, childcare and more. The YWCA educates and advocates for women, children, veterans and families in need in the Greater Harrisburg community.

leadership

Tina L. Nixon • Chief Executive Officer & President
Pamela B. Rhoads • Executive Vice President
Dwayne M. Milbrand • Chief Financial Officer & Vice President
Mary Quinn • Vice President Programs
George Payne • Vice President Grants & Strategic Development

every woman ready to raise the roof

from the board president

It has been a great honor serving as the 2012/2013 President of the Board of Directors of the YWCA. Working with staff and volunteers at the YWCA has been a life changing experience. I cannot imagine living my life without having had the opportunity to redirect my energy to consistently reach out and assist those in need. Giving of oneself is truly the secret to living. We all believe that we have a special gift to make a difference in people's lives and make the world a better place. If your busy life has distracted you from making a difference, I hope this message restores your faith in yourself as well as the community in which you live. I encourage you to learn more about the YWCA and commit to supporting one of Harrisburg's most vital resources.



Every day, YWCA staff works around the clock to provide programs and assistance consistent with its mission to those in need. Strong leadership, dedication and perseverance are the qualities and skills that keep the YWCA running despite government budget cuts and a slowing economy. There is no doubt, the YWCA Greater Harrisburg makes a difference! Our community needs the YWCA and you can lend a hand by volunteering, fundraising and donating. The opportunity is only a phone call away.

As a lawyer, I have worked closely with the YWCA Legal Center. The Legal Center provides an important and unique free service for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In 2011/2012, the center represented over 1,000 victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Studies have shown that providing these services increases a victim's opportunity to become self-sufficient, which in turn increases her chances of separating from her abuser.

The YWCA not only contributes to saving the lives of victims of domestic violence, it provides the means for victims to begin a new life free from abuse. I am always inspired listening to the stories from people whose lives have been transformed through the efforts of the YWCA. These real stories of survival and success are what give me hope for our future.

Many times it is the small decisions that shape our path in life. Make a small decision today by visiting the YWCA website at www.ywcahbg.org and read about the wonderful programs and how you can be a part of making a difference. We all have the power to overcome the day-to-day distractions that get in the way of how we intended to live our lives. I guarantee that even a small commitment of a few hours, months or a donation will make a positive change in shaping the destiny of a life.

for every woman who needs childcare to work and...

childcare & youth development

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg's Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center, Kids on Campus and Sylvan Heights Charter School are licensed by the Department of Public Welfare and participate in Keystone STARS, a state program of continuous quality improvement for early learning centers.

The YWCA's childcare centers, before and after school programs and youth development programs provide invaluable resources to working parents and families whose children benefit from the safe, high quality learning environments.



The Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center provided care to **174** children from 6 weeks old through K5 last year. **60** school age children were enrolled in the before and after school program. These students are transported to school each morning and collected each afternoon. They receive help with homework and participate in various enrichment activities, including the award winning Junior Garden, where under the supervision of the Penn Cumberland Gardening Club, they grew a wide array of vegetables and herbs, which were incorporated into lunches and snacks and made into soup by the children.

81 of the families with children enrolled in Grace M. Pollock Center receive the Child Care Network subsidy. Turnover with families receiving the Child Care Network subsidy is high due to budget cuts and strict regulations. The YWCA works with families to find safe, affordable care for their children.

Kids on Campus, located at Central Penn College in Enola, provided care for **129** children.

every woman who works for good childcare

With 27 acres of fields and trails, basketball court, outdoor chapel, lodge, cabins and swimming pool, **Camp Reily** provides children ages 5-12 years old an opportunity to explore nature, be physically active and express their creativity through arts and crafts activities in a day camp environment.

This year Camp Reily hosted **38** Kids on Campus campers and **96** Grace M. Pollock children.

We also hosted **25** children experiencing disabilities, behavioral challenges or poverty, referred by Keystone Family Services staff.



“

*I liked hiking and going up into
the mountain
Ayden, 9*

*I liked the the pool and playing sports
Jazmere, 7*

”

Club Ophelia offers middle school aged girls a safe, supportive environment in which to share their experiences with bullying. In this program, girls learn alternatives to aggressor or victim behaviors through artistic expression, such as journal writing, role playing, and collaborative craft projects. These positive peer interactions build self-esteem, improve behavior, and enable them to focus on schoolwork.



The **GirlTalk Youth Summit** is a one-day program for **100** high school girls in 10th through 12th grades from Sci-Tech and Harrisburg High Schools. A student committee selects workshop topics. Participants develop a vision for their future that extends beyond their circumstances, as well as the tools to achieve those goals, with the support of their peers and mentors.



for every woman who walks away from abuse and...

violence intervention & prevention

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg's Violence Intervention & Prevention Program (VIP) provides free and confidential domestic violence and sexual assault services in Dauphin County and sexual assault services in Perry County. Services are available to non-offending women, children and men.

Crisis advocates and counselors are available at PinnacleHealth and on-site at Hershey Medical Center to support victims in crisis and non-offending family members by accompanying victims to police stations, court proceedings, and other service providers. Advocates also assist clients with filing Emergency Protection From Abuse orders. Safe and secure housing is provided for women and children escaping abuse.

Prevention Education and Professional Trainings are provided for preschool through college throughout Dauphin and Perry Counties, covering a wide array of topics related to domestic violence and sexual assault.

The YWCA partners with the PA State Police Academy to train all freshman cadets on victim behavior and domestic violence issues. Trainings are also provided to medical students and staff at Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and in the PinnacleHealth System.

The Power of Style Fashion Show raised \$46,000 in support of the YWCA VIP program. Thank you to everyone who supported this Domestic Violence Awareness Month event in October.

services provided

- 3,565** victims of domestic or sexual violence and their non-offending significant others received crisis services.
- 1,716** calls were answered on the 24-hour violence/sexual assault crisis hotline. (1-800-654-1211)
- 2,719** individuals received crisis counseling; group counseling services were provided to **960** participants.
- 1,496** clients were accompanied to court proceedings, hospital appointments, police stations and other facilities by YWCA advocates.
- 222** women were provided safe shelter for **2,714** nights and **168** children received shelter for **2,294** nights.
- 749** trainings and events were provided to over **19,543** individuals at local businesses, care homes and in the community.

every woman who clears a path for her

*In Pennsylvania, in 2012.....

An elementary school music teacher was shot by her ex-husband as she played the organ during her church's Sunday service.

A pregnant, 24-year old woman was fatally stabbed in front of her 5 year-old daughter.

The victim's boyfriend was charged.

72 women

38 men

8 children

were killed in domestic violence homicides.

*From the PA Coalition Against Domestic Violence 2012 Domestic Violence Fatality Report.

1 in 3 teens

experience sexual, or physical abuse or threats from a boyfriend each year.

73%

of parents with children under the age of 18 **have not talked about** domestic violence, dating violence or sexual assault with their children.

75%

individuals surveyed who said they would step in to help a stranger who is being abused.

50%

of women who experienced domestic violence and then told someone about it, said no one helped them.

for every woman who stands up for justice and...

legal services

The YWCA Greater Harrisburg provides free and comprehensive legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, trafficking and dating violence, regardless of gender. Assistance is available in civil legal matters including: divorce; custody; child and spousal support; Protection From Abuse (PFA) orders and immigration.

pro-bono services

Legal Center staff includes a bilingual legal advocate who is stationed at the Children's Check-Up Center at Hall Manor, the largest low-income housing project in Dauphin County. There, we have the opportunity to meet with women in a setting away from their abusers.

training

The YWCA provides legal training and technical assistance to attorneys, law students, district magistrates, medical students, high-school students, college and law school faculty and staff, police officers, probation officers, and other community groups on legal issues relating to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

The Legal Center hosts the Pursuit of Justice Purse Auction every December. Last year, this event raised \$16,000 which supported staffing to help reduce the client waiting list.

racial justice

This year, the Racial Justice Staff Advisory Council planned several cultural heritage month celebrations featuring pot luck lunch and learns. We gathered Hispanic and African American community leaders to engage in panel discussions. We showcased African American poetry and music and Floyd Stokes joined us for a "Read In" during African American History Month.

Staff participated in a 6-week "Spanish for Social Services" series enabling them to better assist our Spanish-speaking community.

This year also saw the relaunch of both the Racial Justice Committee and the Community Responders Network.

Comprised of community leaders, the Racial Justice Committee is the external arm of Racial Justice Programs at the YWCA developing and driving initiatives in the community. The Community Responders Network (CRN), a coalition of local leaders and concerned citizens, seeks to build a stronger, more inclusive community by preventing and responding to instances of bias and intolerance in Central PA.

The YWCA also organized the 11th South Allison Hill Multi-Cultural Festival.

Racial justice programs are funded with income from the YWCA annual Race Against Racism 5K held each April.

every woman who stands by her side

In December 2012, Jackie's life changed when her daughter was murdered by her boyfriend in front of her and her young grandchild. The boyfriend and biological father turned himself in to police and is currently incarcerated awaiting trial.

Jackie called the Legal Center looking for help in obtaining custody of her grandson. The Legal Center filed an Emergency Petition for Special Relief and a Complaint in Custody. The Emergency Petition was successful and the Court issued a Temporary Order granting Jackie sole legal and physical custody of her grandson, pending a hearing. Jackie plans to adopt the child and change the child's name and the Legal Center will continue helping her.

In 2012, the YWCA Legal Center provided services to:

1,621 victims of domestic violence, stalking, dating violence and sexual assault, in **1,893** cases.



Dancers at the South Allison Hill Multi-Cultural Festival



Floyd "SuperReader" Stokes reading to children from Grace M. Pollock Child Development Center

for every woman who needs affordable housing and...

housing

emergency shelter, transitional & bridge housing

YWCA Housing and Homelessness Programs provide a safe place for women and children to recover from the trauma of homelessness. Residents work with an experienced case manager to find next step or permanent housing, while participating in classes that teach life skills and self-sufficiency. Dedicated volunteers teach budgeting and credit counseling, personal health care, parenting and nutrition among others. Residents also complete employment readiness workshops.

Last year, **173 women** and **49 children** stayed in emergency shelter for a total of **6,128** nights. **Ninety-five percent** obtained next step housing.

54 women and **41 children** stayed in Transitional & Bridge housing programs for a total of **13,707** nights. **Eighty percent** of program graduates obtained permanent housing.

“After so many years living on the streets, I needed the structured support of the Transitional Housing program. Because of the YWCA’s continued support and excellent program, I am capable of being self-sufficient but more than that, I can hold my head up today and look myself in the mirror.”

Susan, YWCA resident

YWCA Housing Case Managers: Ruby, Iris, Joann, Yolanda & Adlih (L to R)



permanent housing

YWCA single room occupancy apartments offer a permanent housing solution for homeless women who are mostly older, disabled and on a fixed income. Last year, the YWCA housed **27 women** in SRO for **5,218** nights. **One hundred percent** have maintained permanent housing for more than six months.

Permanent Housing Program for Persons with Disabilities (PHD)

This program for families who are homeless and have a family member with a permanent disability assisted **13 families** in which at least one member was significantly and permanently disabled, for a total of **4,243** nights. **One hundred percent** of program participants maintained permanent housing.

safe haven

A new program, the Safe Haven is a shelter for single women who have severe mental illness and are chronically homeless - ie: they have been homeless for at least 6 years. The Safe Haven offers a place to come off the streets, relearn basic skills, such as sleeping in a bed, and gradually reconnects women with mainstream services.

7 women reside at the Safe Haven.

every woman who is ready to open doors

the mansion on the hill

When she was just 5, J’Nae shared her bed with her Mom every night, to escape the smell of alcohol on her father. One night, in a drunken rage, he stormed in and upturned their mattress. Fearful, they tried to leave by car, but he threw himself on the hood. As her mother drove away, J’Nae watched her father hit the ground.

Two weeks after graduating high school, and just 18 years old, J’Nae’s life changed again. Her Mom was sentenced to state prison for selling drugs, leaving J’Nae as the legal guardian for her 8-year-old sister and needing a place to live.

She was 19 years old and 3 months pregnant when she arrived at the YWCA’s Emergency Shelter. She moved into the Bridge Housing Program and completed all the YW Works employment readiness workshops. She regularly attended Parents Anonymous classes. With the guidance of her case manager, J’Nae stayed focused on her goals.

“I mastered the discipline necessary to be a successful adult; not only from the staff, but also the women I befriended during my stay.” Says J’Nae:

“I cultivated friendships with both staff and residents that I have carried with me over these last 8 years. The women of the YWCA were there for me when I had no one else. They were my mothers, my sisters, and most of all – my friends.”

J’Nae’s son, Quincey, was born while she was living at the YWCA. A few months later, with the help of YW Works program staff,

J’Nae started her first permanent job at a local hotel. In 2010, she secured employment as a Clerk Typist II for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, where she has been for three years.

Now 27 years old, J’Nae lives with her boyfriend and Quincey, who will start 2nd grade in the fall.

Recently promoted, J’Nae is excited to gain the financial security that she has worked so hard for.



J’Nae and her son Quincey

“

I give the YWCA a great deal of credit for helping me become the competent, responsible person that I am today. My experience at the YWCA changed my life. Blessings come in many guises. Mine was ‘the mansion on the hill’.

”

for every woman looking for a fair shake and...

economic and neighborhood development

Building a supportive community and fostering self-sufficiency are the primary goals of the Economic and Neighborhood Development (END) Department.

END outreach last year connected with over **1,000** individuals facing significant obstacles including homelessness, education gaps and mental health issues, as well as complex barriers including addiction or a criminal background.

The **YW-Works** and **Supported Employment** Teams assisted **438** homeless individuals and families, unemployed and low-income individuals with employment readiness workshops, education, transportation, childcare and referrals. **45% of these individuals found meaningful employment**, while those who completed **YW Works** employment readiness workshops **increased their success rate to 86%**.

empowering youth

The YWCA maintained a leadership role in South Allison Hill and Greater Harrisburg with innovative programs including the Center for Employment, Education, and Entrepreneurial Development (CEEED), a nexus for a collaboration of community-based organizations assisting unemployed and undereducated youth and adults get their GED, get back to work and into stable housing.

The Highmark Local Workforce Initiative (HLWI) provided \$50,000 to the YWCA. With that funding, 50 young, high-school dropouts graduated with their GED, and obtained employment.

Stephanie Lee, seen above right with Evan Frazier, Highmark Inc., obtained her GED through the YWCA's HLWI, then mentored other young participants. She now studies cosmetology at Empire Beauty School. Having overcome significant barriers, she is looking forward to a bright future.

In 2012...

Veterans Employment Programs served over **188** veterans through outreach and the annual Stand Down.

Of the **97** veterans enrolled in employment readiness programs, **70** found employment and **70** obtained housing.

The Transportation team covered over **47,000** miles and provided an average of **282** rides to work each month.



"CEEED has given me the chance to succeed in so many ways. Without these people I would not be where I am today"

Stephanie Lee

every woman who wants to shake things up

determination redefines success

Success has many definitions. For Cris Brown, success is defined by managing his anxiety and depression, overcoming isolation, maintaining sobriety and persisting in his search for permanent, stable employment.

Cris has been able to achieve all those goals by lining up all the tools for recovery he needs to succeed. Finding employment is one of the tools Cris identified to maintain his quality of life, so he has worked consistently with his YWCA employment specialist, Marlai Paxton and YWCA Certified Peer Support Specialist, Iris Anderson, whose relationship with Cris has buoyed his journey in recovery.

Cris is an active member of a 12-Step fellowship, has the support of his sponsor, attends group meetings and therapy, and utilizes the YWCA peer support and Supported Employment support groups. Cris celebrated 1 year in recovery on September 2, 2013.

"It has been and is an overwhelming process, but in the end, the reward will be well worth it. So I just keep looking forward," says Cris. He continues to meet with his employment specialist at least twice a week. He is not discouraged by the long process; instead, he chooses to be present for the journey, knowing that when he does start working again, he will be ready to succeed.



L to R: Iris Anderson, Cris Brown and Marlai Paxton

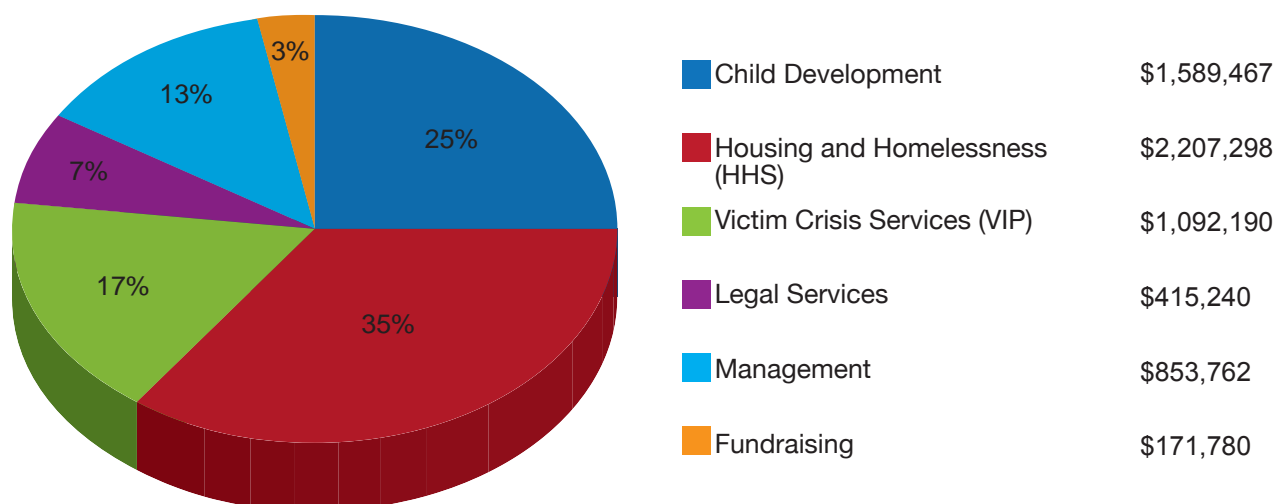
"It has been and is an overwhelming process, but in the end, the reward will be well worth it. So I just keep looking forward"

says Cris Brown

TRANSFORMING LIVES

financials 2012-2013

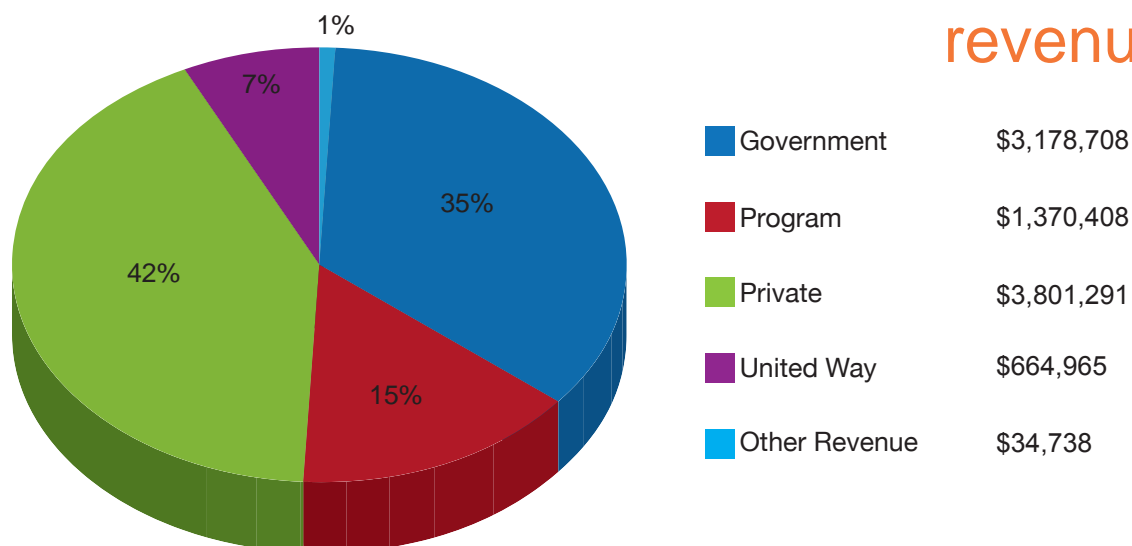
expenses



The fiscal year presented challenges for the YWCA regarding some program funding sources. The generous contributions received from private donors and foundations were critical in order for us to continue providing high quality services and transforming lives.

The YWCA's full financials are available at www.ywcahbg.org

revenues



A FORCE FOR CHANGE

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Marie Schleicher
Toni Ann Simmers
Ellen Warren

**YWCA Greater
Harrisburg Locations**

John Crain Kunkel Center
1101 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17103
(717) 234-7931

Legal Center
112 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 724-0516



**24-Hour Crisis Hotline
1.800.654.1211**

www.ywcahbg.org

