YWCA OF HOUSTON IS ON A MISSION TO ELIMINATE RACISM, EMPOWER WOMEN, STAND UP FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, HELP FAMILIES, AND STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY.

ABOUT YWCA USA

For over 150 years, YWCA has been at the forefront of the most critical social movements — from voting rights and civil rights, to affordable housing and pay equity, to violence prevention and health care reform. But despite important work being done on the ground by more than 220 local associations across the country, not enough people understood the size, impact, or relevance of YWCA.

Today, YWCA is one of the top 25 largest charities in the U.S., according to Nonprofit Times, with total revenues of more than $775 million. YWCA USA serves 2.3 million people annually.

ABOUT YWCA HOUSTON

The YWCA of Houston, founded in 1907, has been one of the premier women’s organizations in the city of Houston.

We continue to build upon our legacy through service to women and girls over generations. In order to uphold the integrity of our legacy, the YWCA of Houston has adopted a very intentional approach to creating programs that align directly with our mission.

We accomplish our mission by serving thousands of women, girls, and families throughout the greater Houston area.
AS HOUSTON’S PREMIERE ORGANIZATION FOR DISADVANTAGED WOMEN AND GIRLS OF COLOR, WE ARE ON A MISSION TO INCREASE THEIR EMOTIONAL AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

We’re part of the national network of the YWCA USA. This means we leverage the legacy of a pioneering organization that squarely confronts social justice issues to make lasting, meaningful change. Our programs and services are designed to help women and girls overcome life’s challenges and eliminate barriers to success.

- We seek to increase their equal protections and equal opportunities
- We work to increase their economic opportunities
- We strive to improve their health and safety outcomes

We’re on a mission to help women and girls learn, empower, advance, lead, serve, and thrive through our programs and services.
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

YWCA OF HOUSTON IS ON A MISSION!

We are a part of a larger network – the YWCA USA – who has been at the forefront of the most critical social movements. From voting rights and civil rights, to affordable housing and equal pay, to violence prevention and health care reform, we advocate against all social injustice.

This 150+ year commitment, along with our unique combination of programming and advocacy, makes YWCA USA one of the oldest, largest and most accomplished multiracial organizations in the fight for social justice.

Locally, the YWCA of Houston is proud to further our national organization’s mission by eliminating barriers and empowering women and children at every stage of their life. We offer programs and services that help women and girls of all ages and backgrounds to succeed. Our continuum of programs and services is called the “Lifecycle of a Woman”. It is important for us to support women in all stages of their life. We help girls break down barriers while empowering them to with self-confidence. We help young women lead and advance in college and career. The Life cycle of a Woman allows women impact other women’s lives through our volunteer opportunities. Additionally, we are there to help venerable women enhance their social and personal development to thrive and live life fully.

As we help women and girls with life’s challenges, not only do we continue our national commitment, we also strengthen families and our local community.

This year we have made significant strides and look forward to forging ahead in the next year. In continuing our mission we need your help. We need your courage, compassion, and commitment. Together, we can eliminate racism and empower women and girls.
The excitement and expectation of a new year can be both thrilling and overwhelming. However, slowing down from the festivities and taking a deep breath, we can look back at the goals, successes and challenges of the past year and feel accomplished and determined for the new year.

At the time of this writing, a year in review is taking place at the YWCA of Houston. Throughout the past year, the 2016 goals have guided the direction of the programs and services offered at the YWCA. Life and transitions have also offered opportunities for growth and development. These successes and challenges have made the organization, its staff, and the community it serves take courage to become stronger, smarter and empowered to move forward with resolve.

This past year, the closing of the YWCA of Houston’s Women Independently Living and Developing (W.I.L.D) Transitional Housing Program was bittersweet. As quickly as we closed due to changes in funding, we were excited to reopen and rebrand as the YWCA of Houston’s Center for Women Permanent Housing Program funded by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The shift from serving homeless women ages 18-24 in a transitional living capacity who aged out of foster care to now providing permanent housing to chronically homeless women ages 18-24 required a higher level of courage for us. It signaled a new reality in how the housing needs have changed in our community. The changes in housing needs propelled the YWCA of Houston to launch YWCA Choices Permanent Supportive Housing program- 21 scattered site apartments for women and children who have been chronically homeless.

In addition, YWCA of Houston was excited to launch YWCA Tech GYRLS®, a program that seeks to empower young girls, particularly for underrepresented girls, in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and to encourage them to pursue careers within these fields. We are grateful to Valero Foundation for their donation of $40,000 to purchase our first temperature control truck to deliver Meals on Wheels in the East End community. In 2016, we served over 200,000 meals to Houston’s senior citizens.

Putting everything in perspective, this success and growth could not have been achieved without our generous friends. Thank you for your continued loyalty and financial support of the YWCA of Houston!
QUALITY CHILDCARE

With a commitment to educate women, children, and the community, the YWCA of Houston is on a mission to eliminate barriers of access to quality childcare. When we remove barriers to quality childcare, we help women achieve educational and employment opportunities.

CHILDREN FROM 3 TO 11 YEARS

44 children provided on-site childcare serves at Houston Community College Southeast campus

32 women provided childcare services which enabled them to continue their education without interruption
THANKS TO OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS!

MOBILE LEARNING CENTERS

Children from 3 to 11 years are provided age-appropriate activities in mobile learning centers located on area college campuses. We support mothers/parents as they achieve their higher educational goals by providing a licensed early childhood development center on the campuses of vocational institutions, community colleges, and universities throughout Houston.

At our Mobile Learning Center, we provide age-appropriate developmental learning activities, manipulatives, technology, and learning materials for exploration and discovery in a small classroom environment with a 1:15 teacher-to-student ratio.

The centers are designed to:

- Complement and enhance the child’s current learning and development
- Provide a safe, instructional environment for the child while mom or dad is taking evening classes
- Provide convenience for parents who can have childcare that is easily accessible
- Provide reassurance for parents who are now able to check on their child during class break

THANKS TO OUR DONORS AND SPONSORS!
Youth empowerment is a process where children and young people are encouraged to take charge of their lives. They do this by addressing their situation and then act to improve their access to resources and transform their consciousness through their beliefs, values, and attitudes.

**YOUTH FROM 12 TO 18 YEARS**

- **36** teen girls participated in Empowerment Zone to gain prevention education that promoted healthy choices, financial literacy, and social media/digital responsibility.
- **12** girls participated in our TechGyrls(R) program to explore STEM careers from corporations such as Valero, Briggs, Western Refining, Southwest Hospital, and NASA.
- **75** participants attended Y-She Can Workshops held in collaboration with community partners and volunteers to provide women with practical tools to succeed in career, entrepreneurship, and life.
At the YWCA Houston, we provide programs designed to empower youth ages 12-18 with the ability to improve their self-esteem, self-confidence, leadership and social skills.

"Y" She Can in collaboration with community partners provides workshops and seminars focused on career opportunities and exploration, self-esteem workshops, mentorship, and Do It Yourself (DIY) projects.

**Empowerment Zone** camps empower teen girls with leadership, career exploration, prevention education, and enhancing their self-esteem and self-confidence.

**Tech GYRLS®** is a summer camp that addresses the significant gender gap in girls’ development of interest and skills in the areas of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).
HOUSING ACCESS

YWCA of Houston is committed to providing housing for homeless single women and women with families. We work every day to ensure equal and fair access to a variety of housing types to accommodate multiple needs and we strive to uphold the dignity of each person we are privileged to serve.

YOUNG ADULTS FROM 19 TO 24

100 percent of center for Women residents obtained essential life skills training to aide in their improved self-image and self-confidence

50 percent of Center for Women residents accessed higher education or vocational training because of our case management

50 percent of women housed at the YWCA were gainfully employed upon their departure from the housing program
Our programs and services are designed to help women and girls overcome life’s challenges and eliminate barriers to success. Barriers such as homelessness, domestic abuse, or unemployment impact many people, but significantly impact women and families at a higher rate.

**YWCA of Houston Center for Women** provides chronic homeless women with safe, supportive housing and coordinated access to personal development services in a 15-bed facility which includes 9-bed permanent supportive housing and 6-bed emergency housing.

**YWCA of Houston Choices Permanent Supportive Housing** provides 21 scattered site apartments for women and children who have been chronically homeless.
Girls and women have always been leaders, but their leadership has often gone unrecognized. Throughout history, women and girls have emerged as formal and informal leaders of significant social movements and blazed pathways to progress and change. The YWCA of Houston provides programs and events designed as a platform to enact social change, build leadership skills, and celebrate women in leadership.

450 attendees experienced the annual Outstanding Women’s Luncheon to recognize Dr. Ann Barnes, Katie Mehnert, Amber Anderson Mostyn, Dr. Irene Porcarello, Theresa Roemer, Martha Turner, Karen Walrond, Aimee Woodall, Distinguished Youth Bradlee Few and the Dorothy Height Legacy Award Winner Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee

45 young women ages 14–18 were accepted into our inaugural class of the Young Women’s Leadership Council
Outstanding Women’s Luncheon is a charitable event designed to further our mission while celebrating the accomplishments of outstanding women whose professional accomplishments and community contributions have enhanced the quality of life for all.

Young Women’s Leadership Council is a wonderful opportunity for teen girls ready to develop their leadership skills, serve as a role model in their community, and make a difference in the lives of women and girls.

IREX Community Solutions Program and YWCA of Houston partner to provide an excellent opportunity for global leaders who strive to learn and serve others in their communities and nonprofits through fellowship opportunities.
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The YWCA believes everyone has something to contribute and receive from volunteering within the YWCA community. We encourage you to serve others. Together, we can help women and girls succeed!

WOMEN 51 YEARS AND OLDER

500+ volunteers dedicated to serve throughout the year

28K hours of services to the YWCA of Houston

300 volunteers participated in delivering meals for our Thanksgiving Day event alone
Volunteer Connection
Volunteers are critical members of the YWCA of Houston family. We value the time, energy, and talents each volunteer contributes in making significant differences in the lives of families, seniors, women, and children associated with the YWCA of Houston.

Get Involved:
• Mobile Drop in Child Care Center-Houston Community College Southeast
• YWCA of Houston Housing for Women
• Meals on Wheels
• Senior Centers For Life
• YWCA Food Pantry
• Young Women’s Leadership Program for Girls
• Empowerment Zone Camps for Girl
• TechGYRLS® Stem Camps

If you would like more information about volunteering at the YWCA of Houston, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 713-640-2823 or email volunteer@ywcahouston.org.
SENIOR PROGRAMS

The YWCA of Houston is on a mission to help seniors thrive and live fully by providing programs for health, social, and personal development activities. Through our programs, we strive to fulfill the needs of Houston’s senior community.

WOMEN 60 YEARS AND OLDER

952 seniors, including 591 women, were served through our Centers for Senior Life

148 seniors were provided transportation to and from our Centers for Senior Life

1137 seniors, including 722 women, served through our Meals on Wheels program

200K meals delivered to seniors through our Meals on Wheels program

1450 homebound seniors received a hot nutritional meal on Thanksgiving Day through our partnership with the Area Agency on Aging H.O.M.E. Program
Harris County, one of the largest counties in the country and home to Houston, counted 252,895 adults age 65 years of age and older within its political boundaries in 2004 (Texas State Data Center, 2004). With the aging of the Baby Boomers and the influx of 1 million new households by 2025¹, this group is expected to grow dramatically, making factors affecting seniors all that more important.

Centers for Senior Life are located throughout the Houston area to provide senior citizens with enriching activities and classes designed for personal/social development while enhancing their quality of life.

Meals on Wheels provides meals to homebound seniors age 60 and older. This nutritional support helps seniors stay independent.

Change Your Lifestyle. Change Your Life.
A life-changing group program for Pre-Diabetic people that will help them transition to a healthier lifestyle, reduce the risk of diabetes, and help them create a life that they will love.

¹ Houston-Galveston Area Council, 2003
CORPORATE, FOUNDATIONS, FUNDERS, AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS

$100,000+
Harris County Area Agency on Aging
United Way of Greater Houston
U.S. Housing and Urban Development

$50,000-$99,000
Valero

$25,000-$49,000
Simmons Foundation

$10,000-$24,000
Briggs Equipment
HEB
Xerox

$5,000-$9,999
Mostyn Law Firm

$1000-$4,999
Brand College Consulting
Arthur McElroy
Francene Young
Cassandra Mott/Mott, Thompson & Knight LLP
Regina Deadrick
Everett Terry
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Sharon Murphy
Elizabeth Netting
Karen Waldron
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LaShonda Pierce
Melodie Wade
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Carmen Zaun
Joelynn Kelly
Joyce Burrell
Trena Acker
Vita Barrio
Reginald Bednar
Terra Bohlmann
Elizabeth Campbell
Steven Cooper
Angel Cornelius
Janette Cosley
Anita Daniels
Minnie Davis
Thank you for joining us on a mission! We would like to express our thanks to the many people, corporations, and foundations that have supported our work this year. It is through your generosity that we have the courage, compassion, and commitment to eliminate racism and empower women and girls.

**CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS**

IN-KIND DONORS

- Bay Area Racquet Club
- Barfield Photography
- Brand College Consulting
- Branwar Wines
- Dr. Camille G. Cash M.D.
- Aesthetic Plastic Surgery
- Center Point Energy
- Connie Kwan-Wong
- Copy Dr.
- Creative Light Image Photography/William C. Wade
- edOpp Solutions LLC
- El Tiempo
- Elaine Turner
- The Ensemble Theatre
- The Gite Gallery
- Hilton Houston Post Oak Hotel
- Soror Cynthia Larkin & Contributors of Houston Metropolitan

IN-KIND DONORS

- Cheryl Douglass
- Cheryl Fleming
- Lisette Galindo
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- Ebony Noble
- Shequisha Stewart
- Hazel Henson
- Sarah Slamen

Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
- La Belle Femme Products/Angel Cornelius, CEO
- La Fleur Jolie/Anita Thomas
- Missouri City/Sugar Land Jack & Jill Associates
- Lucho Houston, Hector Villarreal
- Pearl Fincher Fine Arts Museum
- Shundra Harris Interiors
- Stone Set Photography & Design
- Sugar Creek Country Club
- Tony & Donna Vallone/Tony’s Restaurant
- Kathy Williams & Family
- Leslie & LeVar Williams
McConnell & Jones - Certified Public Accountants audited the YWCA of Houston financial records for the fiscal year January 1 – December 31, 2016, and issued an unqualified opinion. The full financial report is available upon request.
THE LIFECYCLE OF A WOMAN

When YWCA of Houston helps women and families, communities are strengthened.

Children from 3 to 11 years are educated through age-appropriate activities in mobile learning centers located on area college campuses.

Women 60 and older can thrive and live fully by participating in our social and personal development activities.

Youth ages 12 to 18 are empowered with the ability to improve their self-esteem and self-confidence.

Women 51 and older gain opportunities to serve others while transforming our community.

Women 25 and older learn to lead and inspire the next generation.

Young adults ages 19 to 24 gain the support to advance in their career and life.

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YWCA of Houston
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2016 YWCA ANNUAL REPORT
YWCA OF HOUSTON
IS ON A MISSION.

IT TAKES COURAGE.
IT TAKES COMPASSION.
IT TAKES COMMITMENT.

IT TAKES YOU.