FY12 annual report
eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
of greater portland
HISTORY

Founded in 1901, the original focus of the YWCA was ensuring the safety and opportunity of young women migrating to Portland from rural America. This was achieved by facilitating their access to safe housing, employment, and wholesome activities.

Today the YWCA’s focus remains on empowering women and their families to achieve safety, opportunity, and independence. We work to transform our community by providing life-changing services and advocating for social change.

MISSION

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

CONTENTS

3 no easy task, no ordinary organization
6 service areas
10 financials
11 donors
OUR LEGACY

The YWCA of Greater Portland is a local affiliate of one of the oldest and largest women’s organizations in the United States. Our services have been accessed by the local community for over 111 years, supporting women, children, and families from all walks of life, regardless of their age, race, or income level.

The YWCA of Greater Portland’s services extend from Multnomah County to clients all over Oregon. Our programs encompass:

- Youth Services
- Domestic Violence Services
- Senior Services
- Social Change
LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

no easy task, no ordinary organization

In 2012, the YWCA of Greater Portland supported more than 11,500 people through our four program areas, continuing a legacy we began 111 years ago. As a local affiliate of an iconic women’s organization, the YWCA is charged with the mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. This is no easy task.

Over the last year, a large part of our focus has been on ensuring our services continue to align with the mission of the YWCA and evaluating their effectiveness in meeting the needs of our community. This requires a bold and fearless approach that considers how we fit into the broader offering of social services in the Greater Portland area and explores how we are best positioned for long-term sustainability and growth.

After an intense period of evaluation and planning, the YWCA is solidifying our strategy for 2013 and beyond, which will be formalized by the end of the fiscal year. Key highlights of this strategy include: diversifying revenue by expanding our fee-for-service programs; reducing our administrative overheads through a strategic administrative services agreement with Impact NW for our finance and human resources functions; and exploring opportunities for partnership and collaboration that will strengthen our current service offerings.

The YWCA will emerge from this strategic planning process as a financially-resilient organization, poised to serve our community for the next 100 years. We look to our future with excitement and unwavering commitment, and we thank our staff, volunteers, and generous donors, for their steadfast dedication and support.

Leslie Bevan
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The YWCA’s Youth Services Program reached more than 1,400 youth and families through Camp Westwind. Camp Westwind creates a fun and safe environment to learn and explore by deepening our understanding and respect for the world in which we live.

LAST YEAR WE:

- **DELIVERED** a one-of-a-kind camp at a one-of-a-kind place to 913 youth and families along the breathtaking Oregon Coast

- **TRANSFORMED** Portland into a playground for 320 adventurous kids

- **EMPLOYED** 176 young adults, providing valuable work experience in a competitive market
The YWCA’s Domestic Violence Services Program provided safety, shelter, and crisis intervention to nearly 1,500 women and children escaping domestic violence.

LAST YEAR WE:

**PROVIDED** housing, food, safety, and advocacy to 126 women and children at Yolanda House

**EMPOWERED** 516 women, by connecting them to the right services at the right time through The Gateway Center

**ANSWERED** calls for help from 842 people through our 24-hour Crisis Line
The YWCA’s Senior Services Program provided support services to more than 8,100 seniors, empowering them to maintain healthy and independent lives in the safety and comfort of their homes.

LAST YEAR WE:

- **SUPPORTED** 903 seniors to live their lives to the fullest, on their own terms
- **CHALLENGED** 5,100 seniors to stay healthy and active through our health and wellbeing programs
- **CONNECTED** 2,163 seniors with life-changing support services
The YWCA’s Social Change Program provides a theoretical and practical understanding of racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression—equipping participants with the knowledge and skills required to help build a more equitable world.

LAST YEAR WE:

- CATALYZED 443 agents for social change through our training programs
- PROVIDED realistic and achievable strategies to make a difference
- CHALLENGED our community to take action
board of directors

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The YWCA, like many non-profit organizations, continues to face the challenges of a slow recovering economy. An emerging trend in this recovery is the exploration of partnerships to tackle these challenges, so that we can continue to provide high-quality services to the thousands of people in need of our support.
our donors
The YWCA extends a heartfelt thank you to every individual, business and foundation who made a donation to us last year. Your generosity and support ensures that our services remain accessible to the thousands of people we serve.

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**thank you!**
our volunteers

The YWCA is supported by a team of nearly 200 volunteers, who work across our four program areas. Our volunteers come to us from all walks of life—from high school students, to working professionals, to retirees—all united by the common goal of supporting our mission. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers.

Last year, our volunteers contributed 8,919 hours of unpaid services, representing a cost saving of $194,345.
“in the power to change yourself is the power to change the world around you”
ANWAR SADAT

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