

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

Evansville, Indiana



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MISSION STATEMENT OF THE YWCA

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

We Believe

- ...in protecting and nourishing the uniqueness of women
- ...in encouraging the growth and development of all girls and women and their families
- ...in responding to human needs in our community in a timely way with special attention to needs not being addressed by others
- ...in serving people of all religions, races, and economic levels
- ...in effecting change through non-violent political and social means
- ...in promoting the positive power of education
- ...in being fiscally sound
- ...in providing a compassionate environment for our constituency.

History

On March 3, 1911, Albion Fellows Bacon and her friends from Trinity Methodist Church established the YWCA of Evansville to address the urgent need for clean, safe and affordable housing for women who were coming from the country and outlying towns to Evansville for employment in mills and factories. From its inception, the YWCA has always provided housing and other services for women. It has altered its programs over the years to meet the changing needs of women in our area.

Current programs include a Domestic Violence Shelter, Emergency Housing Program, and a Transition Housing Recovery Program. In addition, the YW serves over 250 at-risk girls through its after-school and mentoring program, Live Y'ers, which culminates in college scholarships to graduating seniors and continuing students. Other YW programs include Summer Fun Day Camp, aquatics programs in a warm water pool for those with arthritis and other physical problems, a Food Pantry open daily, and public programs.

A Message from the CEO



As we prepare to celebrate 100 years of service to the community, I reflect upon the accomplishments of the YWCA and how it has continued to thrive during tough economic challenges. I am overwhelmed by the tenacity of the staff, the commitment of the board and the unwavering support of our donors and volunteers. I recognize this opportunity to leverage our rich history and make an even greater impact on the community.

I was thrilled to join the YWCA in October 2010 after Sylvia Neff Weinzapfel's retirement. What a tough act to follow! I appreciate all of the personal notes and well wishes that I have received from so many of you as I began this journey. Sylvia's legacy of service to the YWCA inspires me every day. She faced challenging and uncertain times. I am proud to say that the YWCA continues to provide top notch services and housing even in these tough financial circumstances. We have been diligently moving forward.

This year you may find that you are reading more about the YWCA. There may be increased YWCA buzz in the community. You may receive more news about what we are doing. This is intentional! We are seizing the amazing opportunity afforded by our centennial year to increase our visibility in the community and tell our story. This is a story that needs to be told. It is my sincere hope that as you read about our work and see the impact that your contributions make to the community, you will continue to support the YWCA and tell your friends about our programs. Your gifts, large or small, change lives. Thank you for allowing us to continue to serve this great community.

For the women and girls, thank you.

Erika N. Taylor

Erika N. Taylor, J.D.
Chief Executive Officer

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2010 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In 2010, we housed over 500 women and children in our residence programs for over 15,000 nights of service resulting in a 95% occupancy rate.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER

Since 1979, the YWCA has provided a safe, secure haven for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. We are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Services include a crisis line; counseling; safe housing; assistance in planning alternatives; advocacy for legal, medical, and social services; referrals and information; self-sufficiency counseling; support groups; children's counseling program; food and personal care items; and transportation. In cooperation with the ECHO Health Clinic, we provide on-site health care services for residents. Our goal is to encourage women to make their own decisions and to provide the support services they need to implement and follow through on those decisions.

EMERGENCY HOUSING

The YWCA also provides housing and services for women and their children who are homeless due to reasons other than domestic violence.

TRANSITION HOUSING RECOVERY PROGRAM

The YWCA provides a structured residential program for homeless women recovering from substance abuse. Counseling, employment referral, support groups, and recreation are components of this program. More than 85% of clients who remain in residence at least three months find employment and 75% of this very difficult to treat population go on to complete the eight-month program.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support groups are open to all victims of domestic violence regardless of whether they live in our shelter. Concurrent groups for children are scheduled so that we may address the needs of children exposed to domestic violence.

LIVE Y'ERS

This program works with at-risk girls in 3rd through 12th grades at Lodge, Glenwood, and Bosse Schools. Elementary school girls are bused to the YWCA throughout the school year for an after-school program that includes swimming, crafts, math and science projects, and much more. The objectives of this program are to provide girls with career and health information, enhance science and math skills, and promote cultural awareness. When these girls enter 6th grade, they continue after-school programs and participate in our mentoring program. Topics of interest are discussed over lunch with adults who offer guidance and support. We follow graduating 8th grade girls to Bosse High School where mentoring and after-school activities continue through 12th grade.

We have over 100 volunteers in this program. Our goals for the more than 250 Live Y'ers are graduation from high school and delay of pregnancy and we are meeting these goals—100% of Live Y'ers graduated from high school in 2010 and only two percent became pregnant compared to the national figure of 15% for at-risk, minority girls.

RACIAL JUSTICE

The YWCA partnered with Evansville's Celebration of Diversity Distinguished Lecture Series to facilitate community dialogues on racial justice, diversity and cultural understanding. Groups met to discuss "A Thousand Splendid Suns" and "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini. The YWCA seeks to foster opportunities to engage in open dialogue about race, racism, and race relations—giving groups and individuals the training and support they need to address these topics in their lives and communities.

FOOD PANTRY STATION

Our emergency Food Pantry Station is open every day and served over 600 families in 2010. We work with the Food Bank and the Food Pantry Consortium to provide this service to families in need.

2010 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, continued

BERKLEY ANN BRANSON YOUNG WOMEN OF PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS

This scholarship fund was established in memory of Berkley Ann Branson, a 2000 YWCA Tribute to Achievement honoree. Scholarships totaling \$27,505 were awarded in 2010 to six Live Y'ers graduating from Bosse High School and 17 continuing students. Additional scholarships have been made possible through the generosity of those who support our mission of empowering women.

YWCA FRIENDS FOREVER

Our endowment fund that allows us to plan for the future was established in 1995 with members who have included the YWCA in estate plans or who have made special gifts. All friends of the YWCA are invited to join this group. Call Erika Taylor at 422-1191 for more information.

PERSONALLY SPEAKING

A series of monthly noontime programs featuring community speakers presenting a variety of topics run September through May each year. The 2010 series was highlighted with a special Holiday Luncheon featuring a Holiday Boutique and a presentation by Steve Biever of *It Can Be Arranged*.

FITNESS PROGRAMS

We continue to offer exercise classes and recreational swim hours. Our pool is kept at 88°, an optimal temperature for those using water exercise for therapy. We also offer a 50+ Aerobics Exercise class three mornings a week.

TRIBUTE TO ACHIEVEMENT

Over 350 people attended the 21st Annual Tribute to Achievement dinner where we saluted Dee Browning for her many contributions to our community. The proceeds from this event provide critical operating support to the YWCA.

SUMMER FUN

Summer Fun day camp is open to school-age children. Activities include arts and crafts, field trips, story hours, games, swimming lessons and plunges as well as weekly interest clubs in science, journalism, soccer, magic, and other areas of interest identified by participants.

TEA ROOM

The Tea Room serves lunch 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, featuring sandwiches, soups, salads, and desserts. The Tea Room also caters luncheons and special events. Groups who purchase lunch can reserve a private room for meetings or card clubs free of charge.

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

The YWCA is a member of the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Council of United Way Agencies, Food Pantry Consortium, Homeless Council, Evansville Vanderburgh County Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence, HELP, COCOA, Substance Abuse Council, Drug Court Care Team, Prevent Child Abuse Task Force, and Glenwood Leadership Academy, Bosse, Lodge, and Cedar Hall Site Committees.

We collaborated with a number of community agencies to continue the campaign against domestic violence during October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

POSITIVE FUTURES

Positive Futures is open to pregnant and parenting teen girls from any Vanderburgh County school. The program is designed to motivate and empower teen mothers to work toward positive futures for themselves and their babies by staying in school, maintaining current family size, acquiring the life skills necessary to sustain themselves and their children, and being healthy mothers with healthy babies.

LEGACY OF STYLE

Over 500 people attended our ninth annual luncheon and style show showcasing clothing and accessories from Dillard's, as well as local celebrity models. Proceeds from this event support the Berkley Ann Branson Young Women of Promise Scholarships and other YWCA programs.

YWCA Staff

Domestic Violence Shelter

Director: Mary Watson
Children's Advocate: Cindy Allega
Children's Aide: Tillie Christian
Legal Advocate: Chris Lothamer

Case Mangers:

Cindy Miller
Maggie Tieken

Assistants:

Brenda Crook
Traci Free Spirit
Melissa Martinez
Felicia Murphy
Chris Pendley

Transition Housing

Director: Dee Lewis

Case Mangers:

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Anna Susat

Tea Room

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Sherrie Schaefer

Live Y'ers

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Coordinators:

Libby Culiver
Roneshia Clark
Erica Ray

Assistants:

Asha Baker
Shena' Peterson
Kristen Simms

Aquatics

Coordinator: Kristen Simms

50+ Exercise

Instructor: Elaine Flick

Administration

Chief Executive Officer: Erika N. Taylor
Chief Financial Officer: Amy Lindsey
Communications Director: Lindsey Hartz
Administrative Assistant: Janet Keller

Receptionists:

Karen Brandon
Shannon Burden
Donna Moss
Devola Reynolds

Building Supervisor: Joe Hartmann

Housekeepers:

Venus Coit
Juanita Smith

2010 Financial Statement

Support/Revenue

United Way	156,776
Grants	426,142
Other Public Support	141,192
Special Events	106,204
Program Service Fees, Rentals & Sales	132,709
Interest Income	138,067
Miscellaneous	4,529
Total Support/Revenue	1,105,618

Expense

Staff Compensation	807,717
Professional Fees	11,723
Special Events Expense	25,160
Supplies	93,111
Occupancy	135,284
Copier Expense	1,629
Travel/Training/Meeting Expense	25,625
Marketing/Advertising/Fundraising Expense	11,033
Organization Dues	9,100
Miscellaneous	3,963
Equipment Purchase	600
Finance/Service Charge	460
Total Expense	1,125,405

Net Income (Loss)

(19,787)

Depreciation

74,000

I once was lost but now I'm found ~ Marie's Story

Written by YWCA Transition Housing Recovery Program graduate



A few years ago I was an IV meth user, among other things. I had already lost my home, my husband and a successful family business. I had no hope and my spirit was gone. One day amidst the chaos and desperation that had quickly become my life I uttered the most simple and heartfelt prayer; "God, please make it stop." Sometimes God and I have different ideas about how to go about things, however thus far my attempts to change and control my life had failed.

God's plan was a much more drastic measure involving the loss of my physical freedom. My chains of addiction were removed and replaced with the very real chains of shackles and cuffs. In that moment walking to face the judge behind my ex-husband I was indeed freed. When the physical chains were removed I had nowhere to turn. Everything I owned had been looted by my "friends" in the drug world. I come from a good family who loved me enough that they could no longer watch me die slowly. They had painfully decided to love me but to no longer help and enable me.

During treatment I discovered the YWCA Transitional Housing Recovery Program (THRP). The hard fact was there were no

other facilities of its kind anywhere near my two children whom I missed with an aching deep in my soul. God knew I could not stay clean without at least a glimmer of hope in that area. I was accepted in the program and moved to a cozy little bedroom all my own with a wonderful view of the river. I was broken, but I was home. I arrived with a duffel bag of clothes and a bible to my name. All of my immediate needs were met upon arrival including scheduled visits with my children. I decided to surrender my will and follow the suggestions of those that God and the judge had put before me.

I participated in every program offered at the Y. I was taught budgeting and planning by a professional banker. I took parenting classes from a CASA worker and was educated by the volunteers of Matthew 25 on the dangers of disease spread by needles. We had a weekly relapse prevention education group. The staff set me up with services necessary to get glasses, receive health care, clothing and transportation among other things.

They treated me with dignity and respect that began to break

down the walls of self-loathing I had constructed around myself. I began attending 12 step meetings and Celebrate Recovery through Restore Ministries. There I found the support system I needed to assure the efforts I made would affect permanent change. I remained in the program for 14 months and slowly my spirit was renewed and awakened. I was able to begin rebuilding every area of my life.

I have since remarried my husband and regained custody of my children. A few years ago I didn't even have the privilege of freedom. Nobody needed me for much of anything, I was broken and damaged. Not long after I left the program, I heard a statistic that broke my heart and lit a fire in my soul. It said that only .07% of meth addicts recover. I am now a 38 year old college sophomore going for a social work degree. I hope to touch lives that have been torn apart by the disease of addiction. God placed a dream in my heart to get well, get an education and share with others how I did it.

Each and every "hassle" in my life is a privilege. My life was empty and meaningless and now I am everything to a few people that need me. Sometimes I wonder if I can handle my blessings. Then I remember that God started this work in me and He will be faithful to complete it. He will never give me more than I can handle although I think He thinks too highly of me sometimes. None of this would have been possible without the THRP program and the YWCA helping me to let go of what I was, so that I could become what I might be.

The YWCA wishes to thank our many contributors who help us continue our important services to women and girls.

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***In honor of Roberta Stahr, the YWCA's
first General Secretary, 1911-1917**

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Solarbron Pointe
Southern Business Machine
Barbara Sprinkle
Rita Stagg
Margaret Ann Stahl
Anne Stallings
Teresa Stanley
Bettye Statham
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The Dent Doctor
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Sara Whitfield
Larry Aiken

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In Honor of:

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Nancy Gaunt
Susan Helfrich
Ann Jones
Dora Jones
Dee Dee Leitch
Peggy Luckhurst
Joann Schwentker
Laura Seibert
Judy Thomas
Sylvia Neff Weinzapfel

**THE YWCA WISHES TO THANK THE
FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS AND
INDIVIDUALS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.**

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Joy Designs
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YWCA VOLUNTEERS

**WE EXTEND OUR DEEP APPRECIATION
TO THOSE VOLUNTEERS WHO AID US
WITH LIVE Y'ERS, SHELTER SERVICES
AND OUR FOOD PANTRY.**

Julie Abushalback
Mary Ann Allen
Jill Anslinger
Denise Atkins
Libby Au
Donna Bailey
Angie Bakel
Shirley Baker
Tequia Barrett
Cindy Basinski
Emily Baxter
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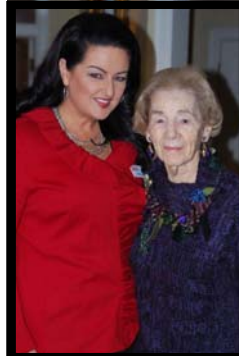
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 empowering women
ywca



Youth Program Director Courtney Edwards, with a few Live Y'ers at cMoe's Breakfast with the Sugar Plum Fairy.



Erika Taylor and Isabella Fine enjoying the Holiday Luncheon



Erika Taylor and Shelter Director Mary Watson, accepting a check from Verizon Wireless Foundation



2010 Legacy of Style models Joni Matthews and Ashley Murray stop for a pose.



**Genevieve Bootz with the 2010 Berkely Ann Branson Young Women of Promise recipients:
 Aysia Matz
 Brianna Reed
 Ashley Moorehead
 Erika Merriweather
 Sammesha Locket
 Joann Darnett**



The Browning Family (Mark Browning, Jeannie Browning Hester, Charleen Spear and Becky Carter) pictured with 2010 Tribute to Achievement honoree Dee Browning



Over 200 women enjoyed the Holiday Luncheon at the Evansville Country Club including Sharon Kazee, Rita Eykamp, and Peggy Lewis



Erika Taylor accepts a donation from the Welborn Baptist Foundation