100 YEARS
we’ve come a long way baby!
empowering women 1911-2011

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca
Evansville, Indiana
2011 ANNUAL REPORT
Albion Fellows Bacon and her friends from Trinity Methodist Church established the YWCA of Evansville in 1911 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 200 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 YWCA programs include a Summer Fun Day Camp, a Food Pantry open daily, and public programs.
Dear Friends,

We are proud to present you with the 2011 Annual Report of the YWCA of Evansville. The year 2011 was an exciting time which marked the 100th birthday of the YWCA. Hundreds of YWCA supporters attended Centennial events including the Founder’s Day Open House, 100 Years 100 Women Reception, Tribute to Achievement, Legacy of Style and the Holiday Luncheon. The love and support that you have given to this organization is extraordinary.

As we embark upon our second century of service, we are still evolving to meet the needs of the community. Every day we deliver life-changing social services for women and children from all walks of life with the goal of empowering women and eliminating racism.

When you think about the YWCA, I ask that you remember one word: Success. Success is what our clients experience because of the hard-working YWCA staff, productive community partnerships and the generosity of our donors. Success ... as mothers and children rebuild their lives and begin to heal from the trauma of abuse; as at-risk girls discover their full potential; as homeless women in recovery maintain sobriety and work towards financial independence ... the list goes on and on.

In this annual report, it is our pleasure to share our most recent accomplishments. As we reflect upon our work, we are amazed by the courage and perseverance of our clients and staff as well as the impact your donations have made in our community. Each of you—our individual donors, corporate sponsors, and funding partners—has helped make these successes possible.

We continue to remain focused on stewardship of our resources and your donations and we are profoundly grateful for your generosity. Together, we strive to strengthen our community. Through the ongoing contributions of people like you, we are working to improve the quality of life for hundreds of Evansville area residents and ensure that our second century of service is characterized by the same level of excellence and achievement as our first. Thank you for being an integral part of the YWCA and all that we do.

Sincerely,

Erika M. Taylor

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Sincerely,

Erika M. Taylor

2011/2012 YWCA Board of Directors

Executive Committee

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Joy Biggs
1st Vice President
Danyelle Granger
2nd Vice President
Susan Helfrich
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LaToya Smith
Carrie Terry
Susan Vaughn
Daniela Vidal
Marianna Wright
The YWCA’s Live-Y’ers program is a model of community engagement with demonstrated effectiveness. By mobilizing volunteer mentors to build long-term relationships with at-risk girls, the YWCA is improving key outcomes such as high school graduation rates and avoidance of teen pregnancy. The results achieved over time make a compelling case for this life-changing program.

Kevin R. Bain
Executive Director/CEO
Welborn Baptist Foundation, Inc.

After school programming and mentors for over 200 at-risk girls in 2011
RACIAL JUSTICE
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.

In 2011, the YWCA partnered with Evansville’s Celebration of Diversity Distinguished Lecture Series to facilitate community workshops on racial justice, diversity and cultural understanding in conjunction with “The Black Jew Dialogues” performance. This theatrical curriculum addressed themes such as stereotyping, hate, faith, self-interest vs. social conscience as well as commonality and differences. A special presentation was also coordinated for the students at Bosse High School.

LIVE Y’ERS
The YWCA serves an average of 200 at-risk girls each year through the Live Y’ers after-school and mentoring program. The goals of the program are to delay pregnancy and graduate from high school. The impact of this program is well documented. In 2011, 100% of Live Y’ers seniors enrolled at Bosse High School graduated compared with Bosse’s overall graduation rate of 71%. In addition, the pregnancy rate for Live Y’ers in 2011 was 0%. This compares favorably with the national overall pregnancy rate for at-risk, minority girls of 15%.

The YWCA achieves these goals by establishing a long-term relationship with girls that begins in 3rd grade at either Lodge or Glenwood schools and lasts until senior year at Bosse High School. Our program is unique in that we work with the girls over a 10 year period. There are many other short and midterm goals to accomplish before we reach the ultimate goal of high school graduation. Girls in grades 3 - 8 attend after-school programming at the YWCA where they are provided with swimming lessons, math and science enrichment activities, arts & crafts, cooking, lessons on life-skills, decision making, peer pressure and health.

Beginning in 6th grade, Live Y’ers girls are matched with an adult mentor. 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. Daily activities include self-esteem building exercises, lessons on life-skills, hygiene, health, peer pressure and making good decisions. Girls meet with staff and mentors throughout the year to discuss abstinence, sexuality, health issues, and reproduction using age appropriate materials. They learn decision-making skills, how to deal with peer pressure, and participate in a variety of academic activities.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER
The YWCA opened Evansville’s first domestic violence shelter in 1979 in order to provide a safe, secure haven for women and their children who are victims of domestic violence. We believe that given a supportive environment free from abuse, victims of domestic violence are capable of developing the strengths and abilities necessary to manage their lives and the lives of their children.

We provide services on a 24-hours/365-days basis. These services include housing, crisis counseling, case management, information and referrals, self-sufficiency counseling, personal care items, transportation, and on-site health services. Both in-and out-of-shelter victims can access legal advocacy, counseling, and support groups. Children in our shelter are assessed for developmental problems and referred appropriately. All children participate in counseling and support groups. Tutoring and summer day care is provided for school-aged children. The YWCA also provides emergency housing and similar services for women and their children who are homeless due to reasons other than domestic violence. 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.

In 2011, the YWCA shelter provided 5,304 nights of safe shelter to over 250 women and children. Our compassionate and dedicated staff counseled 523 women and children. Our award-winning legal advocate helped 75 victims of domestic violence secure protective orders or navigate the criminal justice system. We responded to over 2,600 calls on our 24-hour crisis and referral hotline.

TRANSITION HOUSING RECOVERY PROGRAM (THRP)
The YWCA provides a highly structured four-phase residential program for homeless women in recovery from substance abuse. In 2011, THRP provided approximately 10,000 nights of safe shelter. The typical client entering our program is unemployed and without resources. She has very little contact with her family and has likely lost custody of her children due to her history of substance abuse. Our case managers immediately begin working with new clients to assess their needs and develop personal goals for them. Clients create an Individual Development Plan and they review their progress with their case managers. The overall goal for the THRP clients is that they will comply with all program guidelines, remain sober, and complete the program. During this time, clients are attending daily NA/AA meetings, meeting with their sponsors, struggling to achieve/maintain sobriety and seeking employment. Therefore, it is imperative that the YWCA provide them with the essentials such as food, clothing, personal care items, counseling and recovery educational materials.

In providing support to clients for these basic needs, the YWCA provides a foundation for success. Each client is able to focus on her personal goals and recovery. We have provided housing and services to several pregnant women who gave birth to drug-free babies while participating in this program.

In 2011, 75% of the women who remained in the program at least three (3) months obtained employment or secured income through Social Security Disability. 36% completed the eight month program and 25% remain in the program today maintaining sobriety and employment, completing personal goals, and ultimately planning to move into permanent housing. There is a very high recidivism rate for this hard to treat population; however, in 2011, 88% of the women who exited the program were employed or receiving SSI.

88% of the women who exit the Transition Housing Recovery Program are employed or receiving SSI.
SERVING SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

“24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year”

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.

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. In 2011, the YWCA served 8 girls in the Positive Futures program.

TRIBUTE TO ACHIEVEMENT
A record-breaking crowd of over 500 people attended the 22nd Annual Tribute to Achievement Dinner and Centennial Gala. Guests celebrated the 100th birthday of the YWCA and saluted the 100 Years, 100 Women honorees whose contributions to our community during the past 100 years have made a significant impact in the areas of philanthropy, social/racial justice, arts, education, business and women’s empowerment. The 2011 Berkley Ann Branson Young Women of Promise Scholarship recipients were also introduced. The proceeds from this annual event provide critical operating support to the YWCA.

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 $27,535 were awarded in 2011 to eight Live Y’ers graduating from Bosse High School and 11 continuing students. Additional scholarships have been made possible through the generosity of those who support our mission of empowering women. Since 2002, the YWCA has awarded over $150,000 in scholarships to 66 graduates of the Live Y’ers program.

LEGACY OF STYLE
Another record-breaking crowd of over 550 people attended our 10th Annual Legacy of Style fashion show and luncheon showcasing clothing and accessories from Wildflower Boutique, as well as local celebrity models. It also marked the 10th year of service by longtime Legacy committee members Cindy Fine, Chris Richardson, Karen Hinderiter. Proceeds from this annual event support the Berkley Ann Branson Young Women of Promise Scholarships and other YWCA programs.

FITNESS PROGRAMS
The YWCA continues to offer 50+ Aerobics Exercise class three mornings a week from instructor Elaine Flick in addition to self-defense classes taught by certified Rape Aggression Defense instructor, Jeff Chestnut.
FOOD PANTRY STATION
Our emergency Food Pantry Station is open every day and served over 500 families in 2011. We work with the Food Bank and the Food Pantry Consortium to provide this service to families in need.

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.

PERSONALLY SPEAKING
Now in its 22nd year, this series of monthly noontime programs featuring community speakers presenting a variety of topics, runs September through May each year. The 2011 series was highlighted with a special Holiday Luncheon featuring a Holiday Boutique and a special presentation by Roberta Heiman.

YWCA FRIENDS FOREVER
A Planned Giving Society of the YWCA of Evansville
Welcoming documented planned gifts in the form of bequests, life insurance, trusts, securities and property, our Friends Forever program helps donors leave a lasting legacy to the women, children, and families we serve. All friends of the YWCA are invited to join this group. Call Erika Taylor at 422-1191 for more information.

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.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
In October 2011, the YWCA collaborated with a number of community organizations and businesses to promote the Chalk it Up to Awareness Campaign where survivors, friends and supporters chalked the sidewalks all over town with facts and statistics about domestic violence. The YWCA also displayed The Clothesline Project, where survivors of domestic violence were empowered through artistic expression by decorating T-shirts with messages about pain, survival and courage. The YWCA offered free self-defense classes and community presentations about the cycle of domestic violence in addition to a children’s activity called “Hands Are Not For Hitting.”
YWCA

**Program Staff**

**Domestic Violence Shelter**  
**Director:** Mary Watson  
**Legal Advocate:** Chris Lothamer  
**Children's Program**  
**Therapist/Advocate/Coordinator:** Cindy Allega  
**Children’s Program Assistant:** Tillie Christian  
**Case Managers:** Cindy Miller, Maggie Tieken  
**Shelter Assistants:** Traci Free Spirit, Melissa Martinez, Felicia Murphy, Chris Pendley, Beverly Tapp

**Transition Housing**  
**Director:** Dee Lewis  
**Case Managers:** Debra Hicks, Cassandra Smallings  
**Transition Housing Assistants:** Lynn Kratzer, Anna Susat, Roxanne Weatherford

**Live Y’ers**  
**Director:** Courtney Edwards  
**Coordinator:** Robin Forney  
**Curriculum Consultant:** Libby Culiver  
**Assistants:** Deidra Brown, Sharon Outlaw, Erica Ray, Kristen Simms, Amanda Topper

**Administration Staff**  
**Chief Executive Officer:** Erika N. Taylor  
**Chief Financial Officer:** Amy Lindsey  
**Communications Director:** Lindsey Hartz  
**Executive Assistant:** Janet Keller  
**Receptionists:** Karen Brandon, Deidra Brown, Susan Cravens, Shannon Gasque, Devola Reynolds  
**Building Supervisor:** Joe Hartmann  
**Housekeepers:** Venus Coit, Juanita Smith

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**2011 Financial Statement**

**Ordinary Income/Expense**

**Support/Revenue**

- United Way: 157,445
- Grants: 439,072
- Hallmark Program Income: 0
- Other Public Support: 243,183
- Special Events: 91,770
- Program Service Fees, Rentals & Sales: 122,714
- Interest Income: 141,664
- Miscellaneous: 5,949

**Total Support/Revenue:** 1,201,797

**Expense**

- Staff Compensation: 838,538
- Professional Fees: 15,888
- Special Events Expense: 39,283
- Hallmark Program Expense: 975
- Supplies: 83,344
- Occupancy: 122,241
- Copier Expense: 8,764
- Travel/Training/Meeting Expense: 32,538
- Marketing/Advertising/Fundraising Expense: 9,315
- Organization Dues: 9,649
- Miscellaneous: 5,143
- Equipment Purchase: 400
- Finance/Service Charge: 519

**Total Expense:** 1,166,597

**Net Ordinary Income (Loss):** 35,200

**Other Income/Expense**

**Income**

- Temporarily Restricted Contributions: 14,555
- Bequests/Endowment Fund Contributions: 56,677
- Scholarship Contributions: 22,250

**Total Income:** 93,482

**Expense**

- Scholarship Expense: 26,825

**Total Expense:** 26,825

**Net Other Income (Loss):** 66,657

**Net Income (Loss):** 101,857

**Depreciation:** 74,000
April 20, 2012 Noon

May 18, 2012 Noon
The YWCA Personally Speaking Series presents “A Perspective on Early Childhood Development: What to Focus On and What to Let Go” presented by Dr. James Schroeder, St. Mary’s Center for Children and Mrs. Amy Schroeder.

September 21, 2012 Noon
The YWCA Personally Speaking Series presents “In a Pinch: Home Remedies That Really Work” presented by Anne Butsch, M.D.

October 19, 2012 Noon
The YWCA Personally Speaking Series presents “200 Years of Evansville Lies Here: Finding the McGary Burial Ground Beneath the Streets of Evansville and Other Evansville Bicentennial Topics” presented by Dennis Au, City of Evansville Preservation Officer.

November 16, 2012 Noon
My former sixth grade teacher—now a close friend and mentor—once said to me while I was in college, “You know, all those years that we lost contact I always checked the obituary and child birth section of the newspaper looking for your name, praying that I never saw it there.”

I guess I see where she was coming from. Most people would consider the odds were stacked against me. But honestly you don’t really consider those odds when that is the only life you know.

I come from a family of six children. From as early as I can remember there was not a lot of stability or consistency. Both of my parents had drug and alcohol problems. My parents never married and my mom hated my father so she hardly let him stay with us. He was basically homeless most of my life. He lived on the streets, under bridges, or in the Rescue Mission when he could. On the occasions he was home with us, he would often stand in the way of my mom hitting me. When I was a teenager, he died in prison from heart failure.

Before I was old enough to make my own decisions (which in my world was about 11), I lived on and off with my mother. At one point my siblings and I lived with my grandma and my uncles. I had no idea where my mom was at this point, and I didn’t care. My uncles, also alcoholics, physically abused us as well. We would call the police when we were so angry that we became brave, but by the time the authorities came, there were “no red marks so nothing could be done.” Eventually I learned that if you hit my uncles back they would stop, and I think to this day that’s the only reason they did. My three older sisters were living with their boyfriends by this time. They were maybe 12, 13, and 19. The eldest already had two kids.

At some point the state stepped in, and we were taken away. We reunited with my mom and lived in different shelters including the YWCA. I liked living there, and the best part was that my mom couldn’t drink. By the time I was 11 or 12 years old we had lived in sixteen or so different places—apartments, projects, shelters, houses, motels, relatives’ houses, you name it.
Eventually I permanently moved in with my grandma, and it was just her and me. I was 12 years old. From the time I was a toddler I had been very attached to her. Realistically she is the person who raised me.

I have to say that for every one of the odds I had against me or the people who worked to impede my progress, I had some type of program or person in my life that DID support me, encourage me, or help me in some way. In fact, the program that I have belonged to the longest and that has been a consistency throughout my life is the YWCA Live Y’ers after-school and mentoring program.

Live Y’ers began when I was in the third grade. We would go on a bus to the YWCA after school and do activities. We watched educational and exercise videos, spent time on the computer, and had swim lessons in the pool. We played games and got to hang out with our friends. It was very educational, but so much fun we didn’t even realize we were still learning. And for my sister and me, it was a few more hours that we didn’t have to go home.

Live Y’ers was perfect for elementary school, but once middle school and high school came, we had a mentor. Amanda Goings was my mentor in high school. I can never express how liberating it was to be able to talk to someone, especially an adult, and be honest and have her accept me. I was somewhat of a challenge; I had been expelled from school every other year from sixth grade to sophomore year. Amanda did not make me feel ashamed or embarrassed about how “different” my life was. I found in her a person I could laugh with, cry with, and more importantly someone who understood me, whether she related to my situation or not. Even when she couldn’t relate to some of the insanity in my life, she never belittled me or made me feel like a freak simply because I had less. Amanda and I still remain close. She is still my mentor but more importantly has earned my respect and become my friend.

When I graduated high school, the YWCA continued to help me. Every year that I was in college at Indiana University I received the Berkley Ann Branson Young Women of Promise Scholarship. I used the money to buy books, school supplies, and things of that nature. My junior year of college I used it to pay for study-abroad expenses for the semester I spent in Madrid, Spain. Coming from a family that was not able to financially help me, the support from the YWCA helped keep me in school.

Having that guidance to go to school and get an education and actually doing it was one of the greatest transitions in my life. I remember calling Courtney Edwards (YWCA Youth Program Director) my second week of college wanting to sit out a semester and come home. She calmed me down and talked me into staying at IU and introduced me to a girl she knew there who helped me a lot that first year. My previous life was the only one I had ever known and despite how “crazy” it was, I wasn’t ready to give it up. I honestly do not know how I would have turned out if I hadn’t been a Live Y’er or without the support I received from my mentor Amanda Goings and from Ms. Courtney, as well as the scholarship assistance.

When you are poor and your life is as mine was, it is so tempting to give up and walk away. Having people and programs that encouraged and supported me changed my life drastically. I didn’t even realize what a difference it made until I was much older and able to appreciate that.

I graduated from Indiana University in December of 2010 with a degree in Spanish and Journalism. I am now living in Madrid, teaching English at two different bilingual schools. My students are first and third graders. There are some whose parents are in jail and others whose parents can’t take of them and they live with adoptive families. I see a bit of myself in them and am so thankful that I am able to give something back. It is the first time in my life that I have loved my job and am able to do something to change someone else’s life. I don’t know where I will be next year or even a few years from now. But I know where I came from, and I am so fortunate for where I am now. I have never been happier.

To read the full version of Jamie’s story, please visit our website at www.ywcaevansville.org.
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Sue and Jack Schriber
Barbara Studwell
Wendy Thomas
Sandra Waling
Shirley L. Weber
Ann White
Jane Whitehouse
Zion's UCC Women's Fellowship
Women Empowering Women

Gayle Gerling Pettinga helped kick off the YWCA Centennial Campaign with a challenge to the community. If 100 women each donated $100.00 by February 1, 2011, Ms. Pettinga would match their contributions up to $10,000. The women of Evansville responded to this challenge and collectively the Women Empowering Women initiative generated $20,000 for the YWCA’s programs for women and children.

The YWCA would like to thank the following Women Empowering Women donors:

Suzanne Aimone  Maria Del Rio Hoover  Carolyn Helm  Dee Dee Leitch
Sarah Bain  Jean Denton Brubec  Kim Hermann  Carol Markle
Elizabeth Barnes  Karen Eastridge  Pam Hight  Carolyn McClintock
Amy Barron  Carolyn Egan  Lucy Himstedt  Patricia Mitsos
Sally Becker  Shirley Everett  Shirley Hitch  Carrie Mogavero
Cindi Beeler  Rita Eykamp  Teri Hollandier Albin  Jennifer Moore
Leslie Berger  Cindy Fine  Vicki Hubiak  Stephanie Morris
Davena Day  Diane Floyd  Helen Hudson  Lisa Muller
Ruth Berhardt  Kay Forbes-Smith  Sheila Huff  Ruth Mulzer
Leslie Berger  Neal Franklin  Liz Iber  Lynn Ogle
Dorothy E. Crabtree  Nancy Gaunt  Diane Igleheart  Lynn Miller Pease
Carol McClintock  Anne Geissinger  Lisa Imbler  Nell Peyronnin
Joy Biggs  Martha Goldman  Denise Johnson  Mollie Phar
Mary L. Young Charitable Trust  Roie Goldman  Lisa Jones  Robbie Rasure
Marjorie Blalock  Danyelle Granger  Rebecca Kash  Marilyn Ratliff
Gayle Gerling Pettinga  Sharon Hafer  Norine Keller  Lynn Rochon
Old National Bank  Cherona Hajewski  Heather Kent  Sharon Ruder
Allison Comstock  Mary Susan Hardwick  Pheyllys Kincaid  Gwen Sandefur
Sue Temples  Roberta Heiman  Jean Korb  Kathy Scheller
Virginia Copeland  Susan Daniel  Ruth Kreuger  JoAnn Schwentker
Davena Day  Susan Helfrich  Lisa Jones  Roberta Mulzer

75 victims of domestic violence secured protective orders or navigated the criminal justice system with the assistance of our legal advocate

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

**Sustainers: $500 - $999**
- Suzanne Aimone
- AmeriGal Group
- Cindi Beeber
- Bill Hudson & Associates
- Marjorie Blalock
- Claudia Branson
- Brinker's Jewelers
- Browning Funeral Home
- Jean Denton Brubec
- Helen Christian

**Benefactors: $1000 - 4999**
- Alice G. May Charitable Lead Annuity Trust
- Berry Plastics Corporation
- Polly Bigham
- Ruth Bromm
- Dolores Browning
- Bussing-Koch Foundation, Inc.

**Robert Stahr Society: $5000 and above**
- Genevieve Bootz
- Deaconess Hospital and The Women's Hospital
- Dunn Hospitality Group
- Evansville Woman Magazine
- Fifth Third Bank
- Essa P. Goebel Foundation
- Raymond and Mary Pelle Goebel
- Holiday Management Foundation
- Sharon and Burkley McCarthy
- Old National Bank
- Gayle Gerling Pettinga
- Joann and James Schwentker
- St. Mary's Hospital for Women & Children
- Judy Stewart
- Vectren

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- Jeanne Carter
- Crescent-Cresline-Wabash Plastics Foundation, Inc.
- Daughters of Charity-Mater Dei Daus Family Foundation
- Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis
- F A I R, Inc.
- F.C. Tucker Emge Realtors
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- Roie Goldman
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- Harding, Shymanski & Company, P.S.C.
- Susan Helfrich
- Kim and Dan Hermann
- The Hollandier Group
- Home Video Studio
- Maria Del Rio Hoover
- Pheyllys Igleheart
- Lisa Imbler
- Lisa and Robert Jones
- Junior League of Evansville
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- Isabella Fine
- Elizabeth Randolph Fuchs
- Mary Giles
- Margaret Haynie
- Anita Jameson
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- Sara Whitfield

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- Dee Browning
- Nancy Gaunt
- Martha Goldman
- Susan Helfrich
- Dee Dee Leitch
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523 women and children received counseling from the YWCA’s DEDICATED and INCOMPARABLE Domestic Violence staff

eliminating racism empowering women

This 2011 Annual Report recognizes all gifts made during the calendar year. It is very important to us to recognize and thank our donors. Every effort has been made to provide a complete and accurate listing. Please call us at 422-1191 if you discover an error.
2011: a birthday celebration that lasted all year!

The YWCA of Evansville opened its doors in 1911, providing refuge and support for women. In 2011, we marked our centennial with a year-long salute to the founders, supporters, and friends who made our first 100 years possible.

The accolades began early, when Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel declared March 3, 2011, as “YWCA of Evansville Day.” An open house followed, where well-wishers gathered to tour the facility and share memories. Some visitors were actual residents of the YW at one time, and many told stories of the life-changing time they spent here.

Established on the foundation of empowering women, one of the YW’s most powerful ventures in 2011 was honoring women who have made meaningful and lasting contributions to our local area. Our 100 Years, 100 Women campaign identified a prestigious group of ladies who made their mark in virtually all aspects of local life. (See next page for a listing of honorees.) These women were honored at a reception in May and were the focus of our Tribute to Achievement event later in the year. A plaque bearing their names is now proudly displayed at the YWCA and is a permanent reminder of their vision and talents.

Several of our business friends held fund-raising events during 2011 to help us continue our vital work. Allure: An Evening for Women (sponsored by Evansville Living Magazine; the Sholar Center; and Fox 7), the Bachelor Bash (sponsored by e-Woman Magazine/Evansville Courier & Press), and Greek Night (sponsored by Acropolis Greek Restaurant) were enjoyable evenings that enhanced our presence in the area and provided much-needed funding for our programs.

One of our biggest supporters, Gayle Gerling Pettinga, encouraged a year of giving by her Women Empowering Women promotion. If 100 donors contributed $100 each, Ms. Pettinga agreed to match their donations. And our generous patrons came through!

The YWCA benefitted greatly from Ms. Pettinga’s initiative and generosity.

Old National Bank was the chief sponsor of a unique money-making night, 100 Men Who Cook. This culinary event featured one hundred local men, each preparing signature dishes for guests to sample. The hugely successful fund-raiser was one of the most fun and profitable charity events of the year.

Some supporters reached out to us in unique ways. Wildflower Boutique, for example, donated 100 pairs of new shoes for our residents. Home Video Studio provided us with a video memento of three of our major fund-raising events. Other YWCA backers commemorated our birthday by bestowing generous monetary and in-kind donations.

We will be forever grateful to our friends for making 2011 a milestone in the YW’s history. We look forward to our next 100 years of empowering women and girls to live safe and independent lives.
Dr. Alina Sholar and her staff at the Sholar Center for Aesthetic Surgery & Age Rejuvenation participated in the Chalk it Up to Awareness campaign during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Schools, businesses and community groups participated in the Chalk It Up Campaign during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Fifth Third Bank Women’s Network chalked up each Fifth Third Bank branch in Evansville to promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

2,600 calls

The YWCA responded to 2,600 calls through our 24/7 crisis and referral hotline