OUR MISSION

YWCA Lake County is on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

OUR VISION

YWCA Lake County is the catalyst for change resulting in generations of self-sufficient women and a world free of racism.
True to its work in the international community since 1855, YWCA Lake County commits itself towards C.A.R.E.: a doctrine entailing nothing less than a visionary journey towards racial and economic justice.

**Creativity.** Care, more often than not, comes not just by weeks nor by years, but by the riveting march of decades and centuries forward. For nearly a century, YWCA Lake County has delivered care to the most vulnerable of society: women and children. So in these most divergent times, why, where, and when do we need the steadfast, 98 year-old YWCA Lake County?

**Authenticity.** Blazing across the United States from the start of Spring, the COVID-19 pandemic has left women and girls of marginalized communities vulnerable not only to the public health crisis, but also to the racial and gender-based injustice already brewing deep in America’s communities. Not least because of the social awareness of 2020, now more than ever, a charitable force - a light in the midst of the night - must serve to guide the most at-risk to crisis: the single mothers providing for their families during the pandemic, the schoolgirls whose educations have been so cruelly upended by COVID-19, and the survivors of marginalization.

**Respect.** Given the great responsibility that the Association works to shoulder, YWCA’s Child Care Resource & Referral, Health & Human Services, Youth Development, Mission Impact, and Economic Empowerment Programs approach communities with a head-on, hands-out perspective.

**Excellence.** To grasp our current situation, on the forefront of a new era, we humanitarians, philanthropists, and Americans, must remember the basic principle that the great tower of society rests upon - ground built by working families, single parents, and women who, in spite of insecurities, financial or otherwise, advance the pillars of YWCA Lake County.

Our duties are clear: the women and girls of America need YWCA Lake County because of our services, everywhere in America, with no better time than now. And to further our cause, we are proud to invite you, our fellow Americans, to join our family to inspire and uplift with Creativity, Authenticity, Respect, and Excellence. So you, your contribution, your donations today and tomorrow will help us advance through the crossroads of history and continue on our caring path!

Sincerely,

Charlotte Owens, MD
Chair, Board of Directors, YWCA Lake County
Dear Friends of YWCA Lake County,

As I craft this letter, I reflect and celebrate my one-year anniversary as your YWCA Lake County President/CEO. Certainly, it has been a rewarding and challenging year. I am so thankful for your support of the amazing team here at the YWCA Lake County. Because of your support, we have dynamically pivoted to meet the emerging needs of our communities every single day.

When the COVID-19 pandemic mandated business closures, your YWCA Lake County staff began to receive emergency calls for help from desperate families. Many families had no access to the public safety nets, like unemployment insurance, food, and other basic necessities. Within days, your team began delivering food, medicine, and other basic needs to families. Our Child Care Resource and Referral team (CCR&R) worked throughout this pandemic to make sure all families and providers received our full support. Soon, we were collaborating with other agencies to meet the extensive and growing calls for help. We pursued grants to fund rental & utility assistance. We have assisted thousands of families to secure basic needs. More proof that we are stronger together.

While the COVID-19 pandemic was still impacting our community, the nation imploded due to the unaddressed issues of systemic racism. As Alejandra Y. Castillo, CEO, YWCA USA said: “We know that together we are stronger. We join in the collective call to end police violence and structural racism. We stand united as YWCAs to give life to our mission to eliminate racism and empower women.” Your YWCA Lake County team has participated in peaceful protests and is working on collaborative plans to help address the long-festering injustices we witness in Lake County and throughout the nation.

We could not do any of our work without you. Your support helped us feed families, teach people to protect themselves, ensure community members can pay their rent, educate children virtually in a safe environment, and raise our collective voices against racism. You volunteered, you partnered, you donated, you shared our posts, and you cheered us on. You are our partners in the fight to eliminate racism and empower women.

From all of us at YWCA Lake County, please know that you have made a difference in this community where we all work, live, and raise our families. Thank you for making an impact. We can listen, act, and be stronger together every day.

Warm Regards,

Gussie Yonashiro-Daniels, President & CEO
FINANCIAL PROGRESS
BY THE NUMBERS*

REVENUE

Contributions & Membership
$460,709.42

Government Funded Programs
$1,537,893.68

Program Fees
$542,622.61

Total Revenue
$2,541,225.71

EXPENSES

Program Services
$2,153,521.93

Supporting Services
$404,080.20

Total Expenses
$2,557,602.13

*UNAUDITED
A VITAL COMMUNITY ROLE THROUGH COVID-19

Our Health & Human Services Program provides free screenings, referrals, health navigation, diagnosis interpretation in multiple languages, and transportation to the people in our community. Our training topics and screenings include cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol levels, nutrition, osteoporosis, sexually transmitted diseases, and most recently COVID-19.

Through the pandemic, we have been the boots on the ground, providing food, rent and utility assistance, diapers and formula, and other household necessities for free to over 250 families each month.

26,345 individuals have been virtually educated on COVID-19 safety measures through our informational videos in FY20 alone.
Seasonal Camps

Our seasonal camps offer a well-rounded curriculum, allowing community children to learn and grow while on break from school.

280 participants

TechGYRLS

TechGYRLS is a safe environment for learning Science, Technology, Engineering, Entrepreneurship and Math (STE’M). We encourage girls to go after STE’M based careers and to be empowered to pursue them. In camps for summer, winter, and spring break, activities include STE’M projects, the National FIRST Lego League robotics competition, IT Empowerment Day, field trips, job shadows, and community service.

107 participants

Additional Programs

YWCALC has partnered with five schools in Lake County to offer their students a quality STE’M based program that encourages team building and leadership. We worked with the students to teach Financial Literacy, Self-Esteem, and Health, as well as facilitating a Black History summit.

436 participants
FOR PARENTS

Affordable, high-quality early care and education is a necessity for working families. We understand that it can be a struggle to balance work, budgets, and family. This is where YWCA Lake County can help. Our services connect families to resources for finding, qualifying, and paying for child care and early education programs.

THROUGHOUT FY20, WE REFERRED 585 FAMILIES TO SOURCES OF CHILDCARE IN THE COMMUNITY.

WE TRAINED 1,727 PROVIDERS TO CONTINUE SERVING FAMILIES IN LAKE COUNTY.

FOR PROVIDERS

We offer numerous services that will assist providers in continuing to provide quality child care. Our Provider Services staff offers assistance and educational opportunities to those (licensed or license-exempt, in a home or in a center) who provide child care and early education in Lake County.
Along with GED and ESL classes, we offer a series of instructional courses for new and present entrepreneurs. These dynamic, interactive courses offer practical information on starting and growing a business, including the nuts and bolts of developing a business idea, guidance for creating a business plan, group interaction and networking.

Our Job Readiness courses, guide students to receive the skills necessary to differentiate themselves from other candidates.

We offer financial seminars and coaching from professionals to provide tips and tools to strengthen financial acumen.
MISSION IMPACT

Until Justice Just Is

YWCA Lake County will continue elevating the racial consciousness of our community members to build bridges across our racially diverse community. Our Mission Impact programming works to move racial justice forward and help to ensure racial inclusivity of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) in Lake County.

Every day, we do the work of justice and lift up the cry for equality by serving women and communities of color. Whether it’s supporting the educational attainment of our black and brown school-age children through child care and after school programs, providing workforce training as well as promoting women and minority entrepreneurship programs, or joining in the collective call to end police violence, these are just a few examples of how we have worked to level the field, and promote opportunities even when structural racism stands in our way.
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE. REMEMBERING OUR PAST.

WHERE THE PROTESTS END, OUR WORK BEGINS

At YWCA Lake County, we demand a world of equity and human decency. We envision a world of opportunity. We commit ourselves to the work of racial justice, and we will continue to stand up and do the work until the world sees BIPOC the way we do: Equal. Powerful. Unstoppable.

Our Antiracism 101 workshops, taking place in Winter 2020, allow community members to unite their voices to educate, advocate, and promote racial justice, with discussion taking place in a virtual group setting.

Disrupting Anti-Blackness in the Workplace: Engaging in Cross Racial Allyship is a new workshop series offered to Lake County corporations and non-profits to engage in dialogues that deepen the understanding of BIPOC experiences in the workplace and in society as a whole.

We will be implementing racial justice training for educators of Lake County at Cristo Rey St. Martin College Prep, as well as looking at ways to expand this programming to offer invaluable racial justice training at a variety of schools.

100 YEARS OF SERVICE

The coming year will mark an entire century of eliminating racism and empowering women in Lake County. We have evolved greatly throughout the past 100 years, always striving to meet the needs of the community while promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all, and we’re not slowing down! 2020 has shown us that we are needed by our community more than ever. We’re honored to serve as a community springboard to a more equitable society - here’s to 100 more years!
a year's overview

DONORS

$30,000.00+
- Baxter International Foundation
- CDW
- Clothes for Charity
- Healthcare Foundation of Northern Lake County
- North Shore Gas

$10,000.00+
- Allstate Giving Campaign
- Anonymous
- Bears Care
- BMO Harris Bank
- Chicago United Way
- Discover
- Gorter Family Foundation
- Grace Bersted Foundation
- Healthcare Foundation of Highland Park
- United Way
- US Bank
- Wintrust

$5,000.00+
- Anonymous
- Jeffrey & Louise Schrank

$1,000.00+
- Abbie
- Charles L. Jones
- Charlotte D. Owens
- Cindu Thomas-George
- Chicago Bears Football Club
- College of Lake County
- Comcast
- Daniel Thornborough
- Donna Kopera
- Elizabeth O’Brien
- Fifth Third Bank
- The Huntington Foundation
- International Foundation

$1,000.00+ cont’d
- James Gibson
- Janeen McGreal
- Karen Sesin
- Laurie Thomson
- Libertyville Bank & Trust
- Mary Springberg
- Sherrise Trozt
- The Trustmark Foundation
- Waukegan Township
- Weiman Products
- YWCA Lake Forest
- YWCA USA

$100+ cont’d
- Advocate Aurora
- Alejandro Celedon
- Allstate Helping Hands
- Amy T. Dickinson
- Anonymous
- Bianca Azzi
- Cunningham Campaign
- Darlene Montano
- David Hanner
- Deborah Larker
- Diana Perez
- Diane Evans
- Eleazar Celedon
- Elvia Soto
- Ernie Martin
- Faustino Castro
- Fidelity Charitable
- Georgianna Graham
- Gerzon Berganza
- Grainger
- Gussie Yonashiro-Daniels
- Hailey Wilson
- James Scharnell
- Janet Joy
- Janet Whitsitt
- Jeanne Bertraud
- Jen Davenport
- Jennifer Klein
- Jesus Figeroa
- John Bates
- Joyce Campbell
- Julian Rene Fernandez Cosenza
- Kathryn Craffey
- Linda Logan
- Lynne & Matt Lenz
- Margaret A Donahue
- Margie Burba
- Maria Castellanos
- Marina Ochoa
- Martin Mancera
- Mary Leben
- Marydale Houston
- Mr. & Mrs. Brian Weinber
- Nann Hilyard
- National Christian
- Nedra Adams-Soller
- Network for Good
- Nichelle Grant
- Pedro Garcia
- Robert Kamm
- Samuel Martin
- Sandra Bast
- Serenos Insulation & Supply
- SGT Roofing
- Stacy Ellington
- Suzanne Garcia
- Tammy Moore
- The Chicago Community Foundation
- Thomas Franz Toser
- Tom Thomas
- Treopia Cannon
- Valencia Wilson
- Victoria Samadi
- Wendy Flores

This list represents donations received between 07/01/19 & 06/30/20. A complete list of donors, including donations under $100 is available at ywcalakecounty.org. Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If an error or omission has occurred, please call our Development Department at 847-406-5695.