

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



*i am
we
are*

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

Greater Flint

Women are **fierce**.

They are **powerful**.

No matter what language they speak, how they dress, or the work they choose to do.

What matters is they **have a choice**, and the **freedom** to carve out a life for themselves.

As long as we know women who are **strong** and **resilient**, we must respect them, carry them forward, **lift them up**.

For they are the product of all our other selves, the women we were, the ones we strive to be, the collective struggle of our mothers, our sisters, our daughters.

Our salvation will only come if we **stand together**.

By LANG LEAV, international bestselling New Zealand novelist and poet.

FROM JANUARY 2020
THROUGH APRIL 2021,
THE YWCA GREATER FLINT:

RECEIVED
1,479
crisis calls

FACILITATED
608
requests for
*personal
protection
orders*

SERVED
2,105
clients through
*counseling
and
victim
advocacy*

CONDUCTED
138
RAPE kit exams

HOUSED
360
INDIVIDUALS
IN OUR
EMERGENCY SHELTER

DEAR FRIENDS!

We are here and are stronger than ever! I am so pleased to share with you the highlights of our year! This has been a challenging year for all of us but it didn't stop the YWCA Greater Flint from serving the Greater Flint community and planning for the future!

Since my arrival as CEO three years ago, I have been awed and amazed by the selflessness, resilience and strength of the women I have been honored to meet. This report is a celebration of the people who are critical to our success...those who give their time, talents and treasures...generous donors, committed board members, volunteers and dedicated staff! You will read about their stories and "Y" they are a part of the YWCA Greater Flint.

Despite a state shutdown, the YWCA continued to operate its counseling and victim advocacy program, as well as the 32 bed SafeHouse for domestic violence victims and their children.

Through COVID 19-related grants, we were able to equip our staff with mobile devices so they could provide services virtually.

Sadly, domestic violence was on the rise during the height of the pandemic and the Flint area was not impervious to this. In June 2020, we experienced an increase of 200% in requests for personal protection orders and we are doing all we can to help these women.

In the fall of 2020, we launched a capacity-building campaign to establish a Women's Empowerment Center to better serve the women in our community. A group of dynamic women from the Greater Flint community were convened to serve on our Vision 2020 Committee and lead the charge of raising 1.5 million dollars. You will see more about this exciting initiative as you read on!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and the community members whom we serve, I would like to thank all of you for supporting our mission of eliminating racism and empowering women!

Sincerely,



MICHELLE O. ROSYNSKY, ED. D.
CEO • YWCA Greater Flint





CURRENT INITIATIVES AT THE YWCA GREATER FLINT

THE HARRIET KENWORTHY COUNSELING AND ADVOCACY CENTER

Through the center, crisis counselors provide tools to empower survivors to increase their safety and lead lives free from violence. They also facilitate support groups, providing victims a safe place to learn and grow with others who have gone through similar situations. Victim Advocates provide information about the criminal justice system and support when victims attend court proceedings. They assist with filing personal protection order requests and work with local police jurisdictions who receive domestic violence and sexual assault complaints to ensure victims are receiving the services and support they need.



SAFEHOUSE SHELTER

The YWCA offers safe, emergency shelter for victims and children who are homeless as a result of intimate partner violence in our 32 bed facility. Residents receive support services such as counseling and advocacy, as well as assistance with finding permanent housing.



SAFE CENTER

In 2017, we began offering free rape examinations on site with 24-hour access to specially trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE). On average, we conduct 100 examinations annually.



CRISIS LINE (810) 238-SAFE

The YWCA 24/7 crisis line offers trained staff who are available to respond to victims, answer questions, provide information and referrals, and assist with the intake process for Safehouse for those in need of shelter.

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE TEAM (SART)

SART is a multidisciplinary group representing law enforcement, hospitals, and service providers who work collaboratively to ensure coordinated response and support for sexual assault victims in Genesee County.

STAND AGAINST RACISM

As a multi-cultural women's organization, the YWCA is committed to the elimination of racism in our communities.

WE ARE CURRENTLY OFFERING THE FOLLOWING:

STAND AGAINST RACISM: A signature program of YWCA USA to raise awareness via programs and social media about the negative impact of institutional and structural racism in our communities.

YWOMENVOTE CAMPAIGN: Initiatives promoting women's political participation and issues education.



The Safehouse offers private bedrooms for families and individuals. Residents share a communal kitchen, dining and lounge space. Forensic examinations for sexual assault victims are completed in a specially equipped room in the SAFE Center.

I am a survivor. At 22 years old, I was sexually assaulted. Like 81.3% of female victims of rape (attempted or completed), I was under the age of 25. Like 40.8% of female victims, I was acquainted with my attacker. Through the support of the YWCA's Victim Advocacy program, I found hope and solace. At 22, I could not imagine anything useful would come from my experience or that someday it would all come full circle.

It is not an easy thing to discuss. However, as a writer and an advocate, I understand the necessity and the power of sharing our truths. Our stories are a means of unifying and healing our communities and ourselves. They are not always pretty and light. Sometimes there's grit and darkness. There are also times when our stories seem insignificant or irrelevant. But I believe this: there is healing in the telling and as Bob Dylan once sang, "I go right where all things lost are made good again."

I had not created the circumstance but, like so many violated people, I blamed myself. I was mentally and emotionally unprepared to deal with the fallout of sexual assault. I was terrified the person who attacked me would return to take my life. Fear and anger kept me awake at night and mentally paralyzed during the day. I did not know where to begin the process of healing or seeking justice. I had to figure out how to keep the experience from consuming my life. Except, I did not know how to do that either.

I reflect now on that time in my life and celebrate my own willingness to find a path forward. I sought support

from the YWCA's Victim Advocacy program, and I remember the call as a moment of reckoning. It was a deliberate attempt to stand up for myself. I did not think of myself as brave; I was more afraid than I can articulate. But I was motivated by a desire to address my problem before it swallowed me whole.

I could not have known my experience would serve as a catalyst. I would not have imagined years later I would be invited to join the organization's Board of Directors. I did not imagine ever—not ever—I would be elected to serve as Vice President of the Board or that I would be invited to serve as co-chair of the organization's largest fundraiser—Circle Luncheon. Nonetheless, I am here and wholly committed to our mission to eliminate racism and empower women.

While the COVID-19 global pandemic affected nearly every part of our world and shattered any semblance of normality, the board members and staff at the YWCA Greater Flint have been determined to stay the course. For a time, delivery methods were modified, and safety measures were implemented, but the goals remained the same. Our commitment to women has yet grown despite the challenges of the times. As our CEO exclaims, "In collaboration with our community partners and friends of the YWCA, we are currently working on some exciting new projects around women's empowerment and racial and gender equity and look forward to expanding our services in the new year.... stay tuned!"

The Greater Flint YWCA is, indeed, "On the Move!"

I am a supporter of the YWCA Greater Flint because it is "the right thing to do." Supporting empowered and educated women and girls will help to break the cycle of poverty and strengthen our entire community to be healthier and safe for everyone. When women and girls are living safe, fulfilled, and productive lives they can reach their full potential—contributing their skills and talents to their families and the community.

• THERESA STEPHENS-LOCK, member, Vision 2020 Campaign Committee •

• QIANA TOWNS WILLIAMS, Vice President, YWCA Greater Flint Board of Directors •



I am a long-time staff member of the YWCA Greater Flint. I started as an Assistant Preschool Teacher in February 1998. Soon after I was promoted to Lead Teacher, Assistant Director and then Director of the Child Development Center.

The Lord blesses us to be a blessing. I get up every morning looking to be just that in someone else's life. Working with the families we serve has helped me identify my "Y"! As an Advocate, I am dedicated to my community and the families we serve. I enjoy working with the Continuum of Care (COC) group that includes several community agencies to achieve access to safe and affordable housing for all residents of Genesee County.

In my 23rd year at the YWCA, I currently serve as the Coordinator of the SafeHouse, an emergency shelter for domestic violence victims in Genesee County. I am passionate about advocating for every survivor and providing them with trauma informed care that is needed for them to be empowered with the tools and resources to begin rebuilding their lives. Being there for someone and being able to give someone a hand up, in their time of need, is very rewarding. It warms my heart! Witnessing how strong, resilient and empowered the survivors are, when they transition into their new lives, is very inspiring and that's "Y" I keep coming back to work each day.



I am a Flint native and through my involvement with the Junior League of Flint, I've seen the need in our community to lift and empower women and girls. I support the YWCA because it fills this need and gives women the help and tools they need to succeed.

• **JILL NORWOOD**, member, Vision 2020 Campaign Committee •

• **TRINA SANDERS**, YWCA SafeHouse Emergency Shelter •

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The closing of a significant portion of car manufacturing, the Flint Water Crisis and most recently the pandemic have resulted in devastating circumstances, including:

- Poverty and high unemployment rates;
- Low high school graduation rate at 55%;
- Lack of affordable healthcare; and,
- Limited opportunities for skill development and envisioning a bright future!

As a national multicultural women's organization, the YWCA has served the Flint area for over 100 years, responding to the evolving needs of women and children.

We are uniquely positioned to take the lead in addressing the challenges women face today.

The Women's Empowerment Center (WEC) responds to what we know about experiences of women and the results of the Flint Women's Study by the Division of Public Health at Michigan State University. Most notably, study participants indicated they need mentoring, skill development, access to resources as well as a women's hub, a safe place to gather, learn and grow!



**A SAFE PLACE
TO GATHER, LEARN
AND GROW**

WEC

**WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT
CENTER**

Program initiatives through the WEC will include:

- Life coaching and referrals to community services;
- Self exploration and leadership skill workshops;
- Financial literacy programs;
- Racial and gender equity programming; and,
- Girl's ASPIRE Leadership program, a consecutive 3-year summer program for girls entering 6th, 7th and 8th grades.

A center with multiple programs specifically for women and girls will be the first of its kind in mid-Michigan. We believe that through these initiatives, women and girls of Genesee County will be offered the information and resources needed to create a better future for themselves and their families.

There are many opportunities for community members to support this exciting initiative including volunteering, serving as a mentor or contributing financially. Please contact Michelle Rosynsky, CEO at mrosynsky@ywcaflint.org for more information.

If you would like to donate to the YWCA Greater Flint, please complete the enclosed envelope or go to our website at: ywcaflint.org/donate

VISION 2020 CAMPAIGN

I am absolutely thrilled with the trajectory the YWCA is on today! The bold vision behind the new Empowerment Center addresses critical unmet needs in our community. I look forward to seeing the YW broaden its reach to ensure young girls and women thrive and to create a more just and equitable Genesee County for all!

• **KATHI HORTON**, Co-chair •

CO-CHAIRS

I am grateful for the multiple opportunities for leadership and the constant support of the YWCA.

• **JUDY EBBOTT**, Co-chair •



I am humbled to be a part of this important and vital new program. The Women's Empowerment Center will provide women and girls pathways to success! As I serve as a guide in this initiative, I am constantly impressed by the passion and vision of the leadership and volunteers who are making this happen!

• **LINDA MOXAM**, Fund Development Consultant •

NICOLE

banker • advocate • shows grit

I am honored to serve on the YWCA Greater Flint's Board of Directors. The incredible services offered by the YWCA's team of dedicated employees is beyond admirable. Their displayed commitment to the women they serve is a testament to the passion each has. This team carries out the daily work of counseling, helping women who have suffered sexual and emotional abuse while providing the on-going support that is so crucial in healing.

This is the "Y" I serve on this board.

Now, we are moving into a new phase of our programming—prevention. The newly created Women's Empowerment Center will provide our community's women the opportunity to carve out their own path to growth and confidence. This exciting initiative is the next step in our journey at the YWCA Greater Flint.

It takes the support of individuals such as yourself to make this vision become a reality. I invite you to join us, the YWCA's board of directors, in helping this center come to fruition.

On behalf of the YWCA's Board of Directors, thank you for your consideration!

"I support the YWCA because women need to know there are other women who are cheering them on and rooting for their success. The YWCA is Flint's premier organization for helping women find the courage to leave difficult situations, develop their leadership voice, and address racial justice."

• SHANNON POLK, community partner, Junior League of Flint •

• NICOLE GUBANSCIK, President, YWCA Greater Flint Board of Directors •



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volunteer • donor • a voice

I am grateful to the YWCA Greater Flint for all it has given me. It has offered me and all women, the chance to test our abilities, to learn and to grow. Through these experiences as a volunteer, I was inspired to become an advocate for women and children. Volunteerism has tremendously enriched my life and most special has been the satisfaction of having a wide variety of friends developed through working together for something as important as the YWCA.

Since its inception in 1860, the YWCA has been a voice for all women and their health and welfare. When I served as president of the YWCA in the early 70s, there was a renewed emphasis on racial justice and women's empowerment. Here we are today—still working toward the elimination of racism and the empowerment of women. I am proud to still be a part of the work and will continue to help make the mission a reality through both my volunteering and financial support!

From the time I was a freshman in college in Iowa, I was involved with the YWCA through its student association. My mother told me to stay at the YWCA when I came to Flint to work because it was a safe place for young women. Just like it is today.

A young woman named Nina Mills founded the YWCA Greater Flint in 1908. It's startling to realize that I have been a part of this organization for almost 70 years!

I have been awed and amazed by the selflessness, resilience and strength of the women I have been honored to meet. We celebrate those who are critical to our success—who give their time, talents and treasures.—generous donors, committed board members, volunteers and dedicated staff!

• MICHELLE ROSYNSKY, ED.D., CEO YWCA Greater Flint •



HARRIET

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• HARRIET KENWORTHY, member, Vision 2020 Campaign Committee •

THANK YOU, DONORS

YOU ARE VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE YWCA GREATER FLINT.

Thank you to the individuals, organizations and foundations who have so generously supported the YWCA Greater Flint. Your gifts help us each day

to continue and grow!

\$100,000 and UP

MacKenzie Scott

\$25,000 - \$99,000

William Piper

\$10,000 - \$49,000

Anna Paulina Foundation
Charles Stewart Harding Foundation
Judy Ebbott
Lila Esfahani
Kathi Horton
Alan Kenworthy
Harriet Kenworthy
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\$5,000 - \$9,999

Bishop Charitable Trust
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Audrey Lattie
Jill and Matthew Norwood
Michelle Rosynsky

\$1,000 - \$2,499

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\$500 - \$999

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Nancy Kursik
Candice Montie
Pamela Mason
Jill Phillips
Sheryl Stephens
Theresa Stephens-Lock
Qiana Towns-Williams
Karen Wilkinson
Zeta Beta Chapter Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc

\$250 - \$499

Ascension Genesys OBGYN Residency Program
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CSL Plasma 244
Renee Dikes
Flint Children's Museum
Genesee County Clerk's Office
Tom and Teresa Gisewhite
Great Lakes District Womens Convention
Colleen Pace
Elisabeth Saab
Phyllis Schroeder
Gerald Sparling
Amari Steward
Town Center Family Dental
Michele Wildman

\$100 - \$249

1st Care Club of Flint
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Jan Barlow
Kenyatta Bates

Erica Beavers
Amy Begola
Canisha Bell
Jane Bingham
Elizabeth Bishop
Janice Blough
Sandy Bograkos
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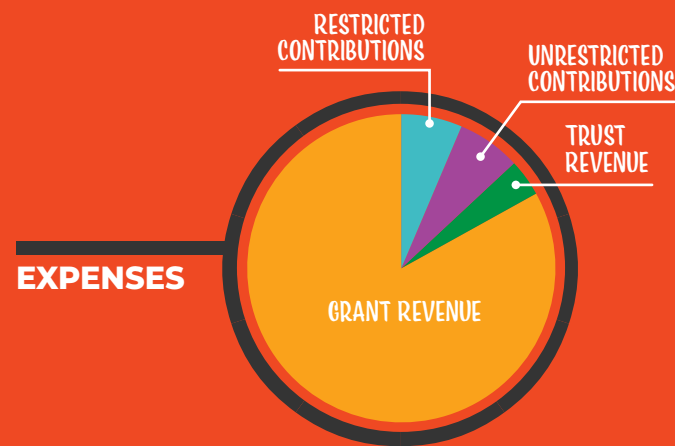
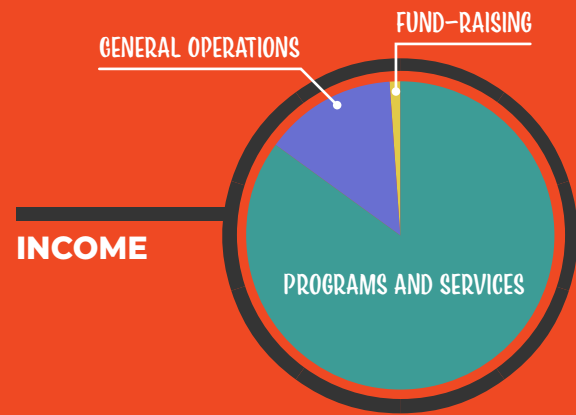
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Lois Mengel
Mary Will
Sandra Johnson
Sandy Bograkos
SaVille Hill
Sharon Eisen
Steven and Virginia Glass
Susan Kruszka
Toyonna Robbins

These gifts are represented from January 2020 to May 2021. If we have omitted or misspelled your name, we apologize!



YWCA GREATER FLINT FINANCIALS

FY 2020: October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020

Income	
Restricted Contributions	\$137,639
Unrestricted Contributions	\$144,487
Trust Revenue	\$88,005
Grant Revenue	\$1,784,041

Total	\$2,154,172
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Expenses	
Programs and Services	\$1,745,995
General Operations	\$284,334
Fund-raising	\$20,986
Total	\$2,051,315

YWCA GREATER FLINT IMPACT AWARD

This award is designed to thank those who have made a significant contribution to the YWCA through philanthropic giving, volunteerism or impactful contributions by staff.

Our Honorees - The Koegel Family

The YWCA is proud to present the first Impact Award to the Koegel Family for their lifetime of continued support to the YWCA Greater Flint. Representing his family, John Koegel stated that the community has been good to his family at Koegel Meats and it's always been extremely important to his family to give back.

Barbara Koegel, her late sister-in-law, Elizabeth Neithercut and daughter, Kathryn, have been strong advocates for women in need in Genesee County. As John so aptly put it, "The YWCA helps people when they are down. It is our hope that through our contributions, we can help to make a difference in someone's life."

Thank you, Koegel family, for all you have done and are continuing to do for the YWCA Greater Flint.



KATHRYN AND JOHN KOEGEL

YWCA GREATER FLINT VISION 2020 CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

- Canisha Bell
- Nicole Gubancik
- Maji Debena
- Dawn Jones
- Harriet Kenworthy
- Jill Norwood
- April Rudoni
- Janice Sova
- Theresa Stephens-Lock
- Shannon White
- Elizabeth Wise
- Judy Ebbott, Co-chair
- Kathi Horton, Co-chair

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- Qiana Towns Williams, Vice President
- Meagan Cooke, Treasurer
- Kenyatta Bates, Secretary
- Jill Carr
- Alexandra Dawson
- Daphne Epps
- Candice Montie
- Natalie Pruett
- Amari Steward
- Anoopa Todd

YWCA GREATER FLINT LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Melissa Caldwell, Coordinator-Crisis Counseling and Victim Advocacy
- Kanisha Clemons, Coordinator-Advocacy and Outreach
- Peggy Cooper, Executive Assistant to CEO
- Amy Cuneaz, Grants Manager
- Andrea Del Vecchio, Manager-Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program
- Ann Kita, Director of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program
- Trina Sanders, Coordinator-SafeHouse Emergency Shelter
- Katrina Taylor, Accountant
- Dawn Teneyuque, Coordinator-Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)
- Michelle Rosynsky, Ed. D., CEO

If you would like to donate to the YWCA Greater Flint, please complete the enclosed envelope or go to our website at: ywcaflint.org/donate

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