



eliminating racism  
empowering women

**ywca**

west central michigan

# IMPACT REPORT

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**120**  
*years*  
**ywca**

**2019 - 2020**

EDITION

# YWCA IS ON A MISSION



We marked the YWCA's 120th anniversary amid profound cultural shifts – race and gender, political and economic. A legacy as long as ours gives us both experience and perspective. We have grown and evolved over the years, but today's mission reflects the same values that have motivated us from the beginning:

**Eliminating Racism,  
Empowering Women and Girls,  
and Promoting Peace, Justice, Freedom, and Dignity for All.**

The YWCA navigated the 1918 Flu Pandemic, the Great Depression, and the earlier fights for racial and gender justice. Yet today, as we find ourselves in the midst of a perfect storm, our mission has never been more relevant.

COVID-19 has cut through Black and brown communities, laying bare the lethal, generational consequences of racism and the vulnerabilities it creates. Now known as the “she-cession”, the economic downturn has profoundly impacted women and threatens important, hard-won workplace gains we've made in the last decades. The critically-needed, widespread public health response required to keep us safe, has unintentionally reinforced the isolation created by domestic and sexual violence, thereby inhibiting the effectiveness of a community-wide network of access points for victims built over the last 40 years.

The past year has been daunting, but the YWCA – your YWCA – is meeting this moment. Times like these call for leadership and compassion and the YWCA is answering that call. The following pages describe the magnitude and impact of what we have been doing.

You are at the heart of the YWCA's mission and our work. As a global pandemic dominates our daily lives; as long fought battles for equality and justice bubble up to the forefront; as we seek not to bounce back to where we were before, but to bounce forward to be a better society for everyone – you have been here with us.

In supporting this work, you make sure our community continues to have the most comprehensive, accessible, victim-centered care for those affected by domestic and dating abuse, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and stalking. You helped us pivot to telehealth, assuring survivors that their connections to us would not be broken. For those for whom sheltering in place at home to avoid COVID-19, brought its own set of dangers, you helped ensure our domestic violence shelter remained a safe place from both threats. You helped to elevate the voices of survivors as we worked to shape important state legislation and local policy designed to get at the very core of structural inequities. In these and so many other ways, you helped ensure that we could be here when this community needed us most.

You continue to make healing possible, however it's needed. Thank you. Together we are changing lives.

**CHARISSE MITCHELL**

CEO

**INDIA MANN**

BOARD PRESIDENT



2019-20

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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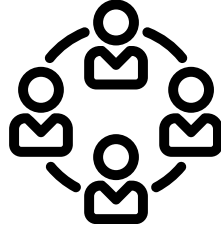
Veronica Bradford  
Lauren Davis  
Barbara Griffin  
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Sara Hendrix  
Jessie Jones  
Lisa Kreager  
Michelle LaJoye-Young  
Kelley Root  
Precious Threats  
*Charisse Mitchell – CEO*



# 2019 - 2020 *BY THE NUMBERS*

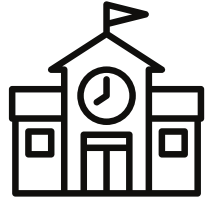
35

student and alumni participants in the Helen Claytor Center For Girls' Leadership's Young Women for Change program equipping young leaders to better the future of our world



503,619

K-12 students of color statewide who will benefit from the SAFE Act, legislation intended to end school-push-out and introduced in the Michigan legislature through a statewide YWCA collaboration



408

adults and children found safety and space for healing at the YWCA's domestic violence shelter, the YWCA Wege Sojourner House

1,508

supervised parenting sessions completed, providing a place for parents and children to connect in a safe, trauma informed space



355

child and adult sexual assault survivors began their healing journey through the YWCA Nurse Examiner Program



45,752

days of stability and safety provided through the YWCA's supportive housing program for 278 domestic violence survivors and their children



4,121

hours of staying connected to survivors through telehealth counseling, helping them to heal and find peace

The YWCA West Central Michigan inspires hope and healing when racism and sexism converge. Where these issues manifest as domestic and sexual violence, we help empower survivors with expert, comprehensive services: **24-hour confidential helpline, safety planning, legal help, domestic violence emergency shelter and supportive housing, medical-forensic examinations, counseling and support groups for victims, supervised parenting time, and safe custody exchange.**

We simultaneously work against those things that fuel abuse with prevention education for young people and adults, leadership skill-building for girls, programming for men choosing alternatives to violence, and public policy that translates our mission into law.

# Racial Justice - Meeting The Moment

In a year like we've never seen before, one thing that has remained constant is the need for the work of the YWCA. Never before has the YWCA's mission been more relevant. Our intersectional mindset ensures that survivors of color who turn to us will be supported in ways that honor the fullness of their identity and that address the distinct and uniquely complex challenges posed by the convergence of racism and sexism.

Following the riots and racial justice protests in downtown Grand Rapids, we met with the city's elected and appointed officials, discussing the tension that is created when survivors, who rely on systems for their safety, are made more vulnerable by those same systems. We provided feedback to city officials in response to the Grand Rapids Police Department's new strategic plan. We assembled a library of anti-racism and self-care resources for our supporters. With an eye on the next generation, we worked with our four sister YWCAs in Michigan to draft and introduce into the state legislature the S.A.F.E. Act, designed to end school-push-out for students of color.

The pandemic exposed deep inequities and shone a harsh light on the consequences those inequities have caused. Yet, within this organization, it has also steeled our resolve. Empowering women and eliminating racism require clear vision and the tenacity to see it to fruition – something our predecessors understood well. On the occasion of our milestone anniversary, we open a new chapter, one invigorated by an ever-deepening commitment to racial justice.

**"We cannot empower all women when women of color are excluded."**

**Charisse Mitchell, CEO**





# CREATING A LASTING IMPACT

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97%

of counseling clients agree that the service has been helpful in their healing process



91%

of individuals who exit non-residential services have a safety plan in place



100%

of Nurse Examiner Program clients received accurate information about the medical and legal systems in order to make informed decisions



89%

of individuals in Project HEAL transition into safe, affordable housing after leaving the program



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## SPECIAL THANKS

As the grateful beneficiary, these two annual events have been long-time and eagerly anticipated mainstays on the YWCA's calendar each year. Although the pandemic significantly changed the organizers' plans, both still managed to raise funds to support the YWCA's work! #LoveOurDonors





# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Year ended September 30, 2020

	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 889,345	\$ 696,967
Investments	1,540,957	1,566,954
Receivables:		
Trade less allowance for doubtful accounts	204,567	98,010
Contributions receivable	60,632	98,120
United Way	131,250	228,750
Grants and other	570,211	331,248
Permanent housing operating reserve escrow	108,529	143,476
Prepaid expenses	129,099	135,219
Note receivable	5,940,400	5,940,400
Beneficial interests	787,813	772,770
Property and equipment - Net	<u>6,495,658</u>	<u>6,649,243</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ <u>16,858,461</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>16,661,157</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ <u>195,143</u>	\$ <u>145,296</u>
Accrued liabilities	199,202	183,950
Debt - Net	<u>9,427,785</u>	<u>8,762,756</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	9,822,130	9,092,002
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions:		
Undesignated	3,717,078	4,115,648
Board designated	277,472	367,294
With donor restrictions	<u>3,041,781</u>	<u>3,086,213</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>7,036,331</u>	<u>7,569,155</u>
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ <u>16,858,461</u></b>	<b>\$ <u>16,661,157</u></b>



# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year ended September 30, 2020

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>Revenue, Gains, and Other Support</b>			
Government grants	\$ 4,120,046	\$ -	\$ 4,120,046
Program fees	466,373	-	466,373
Contributions	343,689	102,390	446,079
In-kind donations	670	-	670
Special events	177,721	38,033	215,754
United Way	26,296	175,000	201,296
Other income	47,981	-	47,981
Interest and dividends - Net of investment fees	52,855	-	52,855
Net unrealized and realized (losses) gains	(20,760)	139,599	118,839
Change in beneficial interests	-	<u>15,043</u>	<u>15,043</u>
<b>Total revenue, gains, and other support</b>	<b>5,214,871</b>	<b>470,065</b>	<b>5,684,936</b>
<b>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</b>	<u>514,497</u>	<u>(514,497)</u>	-
<b>Total revenue, gains, other support, and net     assets released from restrictions</b>	<b>5,729,368</b>	<b>(44,432)</b>	<b>5,684,936</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Program services:</b>			
Counseling programs	2,721,754	-	2,721,754
Housing	2,002,250	-	2,002,250
Youth programs	264,877	-	264,877
Center for Women	188,678	-	188,678
Special programs	<u>103,769</u>	-	<u>103,769</u>
<b>Total program services</b>	<b>5,281,328</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,281,328</b>
<b>Support services:</b>			
Management and general	588,765	-	588,765
Fundraising	238,255	-	238,255
Special events	<u>109,412</u>	-	<u>109,412</u>
<b>Total support services</b>	<b>936,432</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>936,432</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 6,217,760</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 6,217,760</b>
<b>(Decrease) Increase in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$ (488,392)</b>	<b>\$ (44,432)</b>	<b>\$ (532,824)</b>
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 4,482,492</b>	<b>\$ 3,086,213</b>	<b>\$ 7,569,155</b>
<b>Net Assets - End of year</b>	<b>\$ 3,994,550</b>	<b>\$ 3,041,781</b>	<b>\$ 7,036,331</b>

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**west central michigan**

25 Sheldon Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

ywcawcmi.org | @ywcawcmi

**24-hour confidential helpline: 616.454.YWCA (454.9922)**

## **Government Funders**

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Kent County Department of Health and Human Services  
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (Division of Victim Services)  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
U.S. Department of Justice (Office on Violence Against Women)  
U.S. Department of the Treasury

