



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



annual
REPORT
2010



Our Mission

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

Staff

Administration

Erin Prochnow, Executive Director
 Rachel Clarke, Associate Executive Director
 Maureta Studebaker, Director of Finance
 Darren Buttke, Admin. Assistant & Racial Justice Coordinator
 Nicole Ellis, Community Relations Coordinator
 Jessica Shawn, Human Resources & Accounting Specialist

A Child's World

Linda Sakrismo, Director
 Sheryl Krauth, Assistant Director & Lead Two's Teacher
 Casey Anderson, Float
 Heather Anderson, Two's Teacher
 Kelly Anderson, Toddler Teacher
 Chelsea Case, Float
 Paty Chavez, Float
 Teresa Chavez, Float
 Ashley Davenport, Float
 Becky Davis, Preschool Teacher
 Brenda Estenson, Lead Infant Teacher
 Anna Haberman, Float
 Angie Halbe, Three's Teacher
 Dani Haugen, Jumpstart Teacher
 Ginnie Hausladen, Float
 Chelsey Kjelland, Float
 Jess Linback, Lead Toddler Teacher
 Laura Pflugrath, Lead Three's Teacher
 Sarah Piche, Float
 Hannah Rittemann, Float
 Addy Sam, Float
 Cara Schroeder, Pre-K Teacher
 Vonnie Schumm, Float
 Deb Schwandt, Infant Teacher
 Crissy Short, Lead Preschool Teacher
 Tabitha Strommen, Float
 Josie Tillbury, Float
 Ashton Ulmer, Float
 Andy VanHorn, Float
 Alisha Veland, Float

Shelter

Karen Carlson, Director of Programs
 Jackie Kling, Assistant Shelter Director
 Alex Anderson, Children's Services Staff
 Jennie Bahr, Administrative Assistant
 Jennifer Barrett, Shelter Assistant
 Rachel Gronbach, Shelter Assistant
 Dana Johnson, Receptionist
 Brian Kemp, Study Buddies & Homeless Student Coordinator
 Tina Lemieux, Case Manager
 Dennis McIntyre, General Maintenance Assistant/Custodian
 Steve McKay, Facilities Manager
 Tessa Nicoli, Children's Services Staff
 Tricia Ode, Parent Education Specialist
 Lana Pederson, Shelter Assistant
 Sara Schlicht, Children's Services Staff
 Emma Schmit, Case Manager
 Audrina Schroeder, Children's Services Staff
 Josh Smith, Kitchen Manager
 Casey Steele, Children's Services Teacher
 Teisa Taylor, Education & Employment Coordinator
 Tracy Thorson, Children's Services Coordinator
 Tessa Torgeson, Case Manager
 Lauryn Whitmer, Volunteer & Donations Coordinator
 Ashley Willits, Shelter Assistant
 Carolyn Wright, Shelter Faith Community Nurse

Transitional Housing

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 Jessica Bauske, Case Manager
 Erin Dahl, Case Manager
 Jill Grotluschen, Case Manager
 Chelsea Speed, Case Manager

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The Year in Review



The work of the YWCA Cass Clay impacts hundreds of lives in our community every day and in 2010 the staff, board, and volunteers of the YWCA worked diligently to live out the mission of empowering women and eliminating racism.

A total of 696 women and 657 children were served in our Emergency Shelter in 2010 which speaks to the great need for emergency services in our community. The number one reason women and children sought shelter was domestic violence, followed by homelessness and economic devastation. Domestic violence was again the leading reason most women and children came to us. This percentage has been steadily increasing and reached an all time high of 60.6% in 2010. The Emergency Shelter also faced over capacity challenges last year: operating at or over its capacity of 65 women and children 58% of the time resulting in a record breaking 23,965 nights of shelter provided.

The YWCA Cass Clay's offerings to the community are comprehensive, and in addition to the Emergency Shelter we also offer programs focused on homeless prevention, supportive housing, and additional supportive services such as education and employment, shelter faith community nurse, childcare, parent education, community food baskets and racial justice work. In 2010 we served an average of 222 individuals each day.

The YWCA Cass Clay significantly increased its efforts in the area of Homeless Prevention in the past year thanks to a stimulus grant through the State of North Dakota to provide assistance to families facing imminent homelessness. In 2009, we were awarded \$228,333 to prevent families from becoming homeless and support those who recently became homeless. The success of this program was tremendous - 79% of the homeless prevention participants remained in their homes without further assistance after only a few months of participation. The program saved communities and taxpayers the higher costs associated with emergency shelter, in addition to the emotional and physical toll of becoming homeless for the women and children.

If someone had asked me how many food baskets the YWCA distributed in 2010, the number wouldn't have come close to the record breaking 7,553 that passed through our doors. It marked a 48% increase over 2009, and the first time we exceeded 6,000 let alone 7,000. The number of people needing assistance is overwhelming, and the reason the YWCA will continue this component of its homeless prevention services.

On a national basis, one of the most significant barriers to independence and ending homelessness is affordable housing. This holds true in our community as well. For over 20 years, the YWCA has provided transitional housing to women working hard to build a better life for themselves and their children. Since the program began in 1989 with a 4-plex donated by Bob and Lorraine Lyngstad, the YWCA has been strategically adding transitional and permanent supportive housing units in a sustainable way. The YWCA currently offers 34 units, and due to our proven track record of success in implementing these programs, we will soon be able to offer 36 families supportive housing. The YWCA received federal recognition for its work in this area by the President of the United States at the recommendation of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as one of the model programs in the country.

The YWCA housing programs are unique and successful because of the continuing support of case managers and wrap around supportive services offered to women during trying and turbulent times. The women are encouraged and empowered to set personal goals and plans for their future with the help and guidance of professional, caring and encouraging staff case managers. While in transitional and permanent supportive housing, women work towards continuing education, securing

employment and eventually moving on to independent housing solutions.

Childcare, health, and education are central to the women seeking safety and security within our shelter. This is why our comprehensive programming includes on-site childcare together with a parent educator available to provide respite time for moms and children. Goals in the area of childhood education include ensuring children enroll in school within three days, receive help with schoolwork through our Study Buddies program, and obtain referrals and access to counseling and healthcare services; all made possible through our collaborative partnership with Fargo Public Schools. Another longstanding community relationship is with Sanford Health providing YWCA program participants the ability to access Shelter Faith Community Nurse. Education and Employment programming is also offered on-site including one-on-one sessions and group classes on important topics such as budgeting, nutrition, and job readiness skills. This extra support separates the YWCA programmatic offering from others in the community as it is offered on-site to all women and children participating in YWCA housing programs.

A Child's World, our public childcare center, received notification in March 2010 that it was reaccredited by the National Association of the Education of Young Children through 2015. We are proud to offer quality early childhood development education and care to the general public and to be recognized as one of only a handful of such centers to receive accreditation in our community. We truly are helping children make their mark on the world!

Another way we lived out our mission was to focus attention on the issue of racism in our schools, workplaces, places of worship and the community at large. The YWCA Cass Clay encouraged community participation in the 3rd Annual National Stand Against Racism. 2010 was the first year the YWCA Cass Clay participated in the Stand with 22 local sites and hundreds of people taking part in activities, discussions and events. Throughout the year, we continued to provide facilitated dialogues on racism to a variety of groups in the community.

I would like to thank the YWCA Board of Directors for participating in the Impact Foundation's program on enhancing board effectiveness. The board members attended a collective 180 hours of training and implemented several 'best practice' ideas and reviewed the strategic plan. This process reinforced our commitment and expansion of programs directly related to shelter, housing, and elimination of racism.

I am always amazed at the level of dedication and compassion demonstrated daily by the YWCA staff. They carry out their jobs with a commitment and purpose that words cannot describe. They listen without judgment, allowing a woman for the first time to tell her story. They provide comfort and safety to frightened children. They fight on behalf of a client subjected to prejudice. They lean on each other and pull 24 hour shifts during storms and floods. Together, they celebrate successes great and small.

The YWCA received many very generous donations from local businesses, organizations and individuals in 2010, and on behalf of the board, staff, and clients of our programs, I thank you. Many contributors are listed by name in this report and all are greatly appreciated. My hope is that this report communicates the difference these gifts have made in the lives of each of the individuals and families who seek our help.

There are positive outcomes to share, and the results tell a very compelling story indeed. Thank you for being a part of our 2010 success and our optimism for the year ahead.

Denise Magness
Board President

Emergency Shelter

The YWCA Emergency Shelter is the largest shelter for women and children in the state of North Dakota and Northwest Minnesota and provides 45-day emergency shelter for women and children experiencing homelessness and/or domestic violence. The shelter is a safe, locked facility with a capacity of 65 that is staffed by trained professionals 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. There are 27 sleeping rooms, all of which are handicap accessible, as well as a family room on the first floor for families with boys over the age of

BY THE NUMBERS

23,965

nights of shelter were provided, the most in our history

39

nights was the average stay

1,353

women (696) and children (657) were offered a safe haven

61%

or 820 women and children sought shelter from Domestic Violence

58%

or 212 days the shelter operated at or over capacity

330

women and children sought shelter from Homelessness

878

individuals from Cass & Clay Counties received services

363

individuals from other North Dakota or Minnesota counties received services

108

individuals from other states received services

69%

of participants served were women and children of color

15. Along with housing, the shelter provides emergency food, personal items, transportation assistance, information and referral services, emotional support, onsite licensed childcare, and education & employment programming.

YWCA shelter staff take a holistic approach when helping women identify their needs. With each client they review nine areas which include personal safety, housing, employment, education, physical and mental health, needs of the children, spiritual, legal and financial concerns. Each resident then sets goals and with the assistance of their case manager and other support staff (Shelter Faith Community Nurse, Parent Education Specialist and Education & Employment Coordinator), develops an action plan to reach those goals.

These vulnerable clients need more than just a roof over their heads; they need support and guidance to navigate their turbulent situations. The YWCA's comprehensive case management and additional program and supportive services offered at the shelter differentiate the Emergency Shelter from others in the region. When women and children enter the shelter, they are provided with food, clothing, childcare, and extensive case management services as they work on the ultimate goal of obtaining alternative housing and independence.

Ramona's Story (Name has been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

My family moved in to the YWCA in the fall from out of state due to an ongoing domestic violence situation. This came from a long history of abuse. I really didn't know what to expect. I remember feeling scared and alone, like the world was against me.

The staff at the YWCA was very accepting, compassionate, understanding, and ready to help me in any way they could. They never made me feel like I couldn't accomplish anything and everything that I set out to do!

The things that are offered at the YWCA like meeting with my case manager once a week, and attending three classes a week (with topics like parenting, domestic violence support groups, and yoga to name a few) were very crucial and needed for me to become more aware of my situation. To become educated about my situation only helped me to become self sufficient. I am extremely grateful to the YWCA and their staff for allowing me to learn and grow in to the person I am today, a much stronger person than I was four months ago. I will never forget the YWCA for all of their support that they have given me and my family. Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart.

Ramona, Shelter Resident

P.S. Don't change a thing. Continue to help all of those in need the way that you do.

Education & Employment

The YWCA Education & Employment program offers comprehensive employment and educational readiness training to assist un-employed and under employed women residing at the Emergency Shelter. Supportive services include: job counseling, advocacy, and referrals and a variety of on-site curriculum including resume and interview classes. Additionally, Steps to Success, an intensive hands-on job readiness course, is offered monthly to YWCA housing participants. Skills learned prepare women to enter or re-enter the job market while bolstering self-confidence and self-esteem.

BY THE NUMBERS

363

classes were provided

1,617

participants attended classes

95%

of participants increased their knowledge

624

hours of case management were provided to Education & Employment participants

507

one-on-one education and employment plan sessions were provided

"I enjoyed the activities, but also gained a lot of helpful techniques and tips to better myself. Thank you - it was a great experience and am glad to have had the opportunity."

J., Education & Employment Participant

"The program was very helpful and went above and beyond to make us feel better about ourselves. Thank you for the wonderful experience."

M., Education & Employment Participant

"I liked all the ways to get a job and how helpful it was learning all these new skills. I loved these classes and learned so much from them. Thank you so much."

A., Education & Employment Participant

"I really enjoyed all the classes offered. Even though I knew some things, it was nice to learn new techniques to advance my knowledge on resume skills, interviewing techniques, and more. Steps to Success was a very nice class that helped to build my confidence and skills to better myself and I would attend again."

L., Education & Employment Participant

Shelter Faith Community Nurse

The Shelter Faith Community Nurse (SFCN), in collaboration with Sanford Health, works with the residents of the YWCA Shelter as well as those living in the Transitional Housing programs. The SFCN meets with women and children and empowers them to achieve optimal health and wellness. The nurse also promotes and enhances wellness in the lives of shelter residents and staff by addressing the needs of mind, body, and spirit in a holistic manner with a focus on appropriate usage of health care services, access to care, and advocacy.

Impact Stories *(Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.)*

Every person deserves time and attention to find ways to resolve their health concerns. Along with the health concern, the women come to the YWCA with much stress, mistrust, and anxiety. This in turn leads to other health issues such as difficulty sleeping at night or lack of sleep, low self-esteem, lack of self care, and often poor nutrition. All of this can deter women in accomplishing certain goals like filling out housing forms, applying and interviewing for employment, seeking resources that would help her when she leaves the shelter, or finding a healthy support system. The SFCN empowers women to find their own health care resources, obtain medications if needed, refer them to dental and/or eye care, and give them the encouragement and support that they can do this on their own.

On the routine health assessment with Ruby, the SFCN discovered an elevated blood pressure and referred her to Homeless Health Clinic (HHC). Ruby further shared that she had lost her job and could not pay the rent. She talked about the stress in her life, how tired she was, her recent weight gain, and how she did not want her adult children to know where she was. She thought if she just got a job and a place of her own, life would be better. The SFCN convinced her to have an evaluation at the HHC. It was discovered that she not only had hypertension but she also had adult-onset diabetes. Ruby got on the appropriate medication, learned about good nutrition, and started feeling better, sleeping better, and was able to be self-sufficient.

Krystal panicked because both her children had fevers, were vomiting, and had diarrhea. It came on suddenly, and it frightened this young mother. She did not know where to turn or what to do. After assessing the children, the SFCN reassured Krystal that her children had the 24 hour flu and mainly needed rest, sleep, clear liquids, and a good movie. The next day, Krystal reported that the children were much better, eating more food, and wanting to play again.

Pearl felt like the whole world sat on her shoulders. She could not sleep at night and yet wanted to sleep all day. She cried easily telling her story and felt worthless. She had a sad and anxious feeling inside. The SFCN referred her to a human service counselor to assess her for depression and anxiety. Pearl felt relieved that her feelings were validated. In the following weeks, she was sleeping better and was able to focus on what needed to be accomplished.

These stories give a snapshot of the health concerns faced by the residents. The SFCN works to give each resident the resources and tools to manage their own health care especially after they leave the shelter. Mental health illness and concerns are increasing in numbers and poses a great challenge to the shelter staff. Resources and services are limited for the homeless. Funding, available mental health providers, lack of information or knowledge about mental health, and transportation to therapy or support groups are some of the barriers in obtaining appropriate mental health care. In collaboration with Sanford Health's Faith Community Nursing and Healing Ministry, the SFCN and the YWCA staff are working towards resolving these issues and paving an easier route for mental health care.

BY THE NUMBERS

782

one on one contacts

2,577

interventions provided

414

referrals made

86%

benefited from health education or personal health counseling

Other Emergency Assistance

Food, clothing, and personal supplies (diapers, shampoo, soap, feminine products, bedding, and school supplies) are provided for Fargo-Moorhead area residents. This includes serving members of the Cass & Clay communities not needing housing services, but seeking assistance. The YWCA is able to provide these families with basic supplies to help them make ends meet and remain in their own home.

BY THE NUMBERS

7,553

food boxes were distributed, an increase of 48% from 2009 and the most in our history

Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing

The YWCA Cass Clay was the recipient of a 30 month grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for the purposes of Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing (HPRP) in the fall of 2009. The grant outlined a plan to help with short-term rental assistance, housing searches, credit repair, security and utility deposits, utility payments, moving expenses and comprehensive case management.

The YWCA was able to assist 337 individuals (142 families) with the funding between the fall of 2009 and the end of 2010. Of the 251 people who accessed the homeless prevention program, 79% were able to sustain permanent housing with no additional subsidy. The most significant impact of the HPRP program was preventing families from becoming homeless in the first place. Considering the HPRP program helped avert families from seeking services from area shelters, we can only imagine the number of families who, but for this program, would have needed emergency shelter.

From what information is available in regards to the HPRP program, it appears the program has not been extended past the Recovery Act awards. The YWCA can demonstrate that HPRP filled a significant need in our community. The YWCA Cass Clay will continue to advocate and encourage future preventative legislation on homelessness and housing to elected officials.

BY THE NUMBERS

337

individuals (142 families) were served in all programs of HPRP

79%

individuals in homeless prevention were able to maintain permanent housing without subsidy

63%

individuals in re-housing were able to maintain permanent housing without subsidy

Shelter Children's Services

Located within the shelter, Shelter Children's Services (SCS) provides a safe and developmentally appropriate environment for children of program participants, along with support and education for the entire family. SCS offers licensed on-site childcare, tutoring, school transportation, school supplies, school liaison assistance, parent education, clothing, food, diapers, and special activities for children.

BY THE NUMBERS

1,049

children participated in Shelter Children's Services programming

22,047

hours of direct service were provided

435

children were provided transportation to 32 area schools

537

children received school supplies

1,079

children were provided with diapers, clothing, etc.

The Shelter's Children's Services program strives to make certain each child's individual needs and goals are met. Some of the children's needs may include having onsite physical therapy arranged, being outfitted with proper winter attire, receiving referrals to counseling or mental health services, finding a violin for orchestra class or simply receiving a hug when they need one the most. Some examples of goals set by the children include going to sports or summer camp for the first time, learning how to read, learning how to fit in with their peers, making the dance line team or improving their grades at school.

Ben's Story (Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

Ben came from out of state with his mom, younger brother Danny, and baby sister Emily. The two boys were very angry, would scream profanities and try to hurt childcare staff because they wanted to be with their mom all day. Ben and Danny soon began to realize that their words and actions were preventing them from becoming friends with the other children in childcare. After a few weeks of attending childcare regularly, and with the tender, loving care of the childcare staff, the boys began to relax their anger, enabling childcare staff to help them use words to help solve problems instead of letting their anger take over. These small, yet substantial, improvements were noticed by their mother and many other YWCA staff members.

Ben and his siblings have continued making positive progress in many ways. Ben visits with a speech therapist each week in childcare to help improve his speech skills. He is always excited to see his "teacher." Ben's mother worked closely with the parent education specialist within the shelter to help enroll Danny into Head Start. Danny is enjoying the program and has improved significantly on using his words to help solve problems instead of screaming and/or hitting. Emily has grown and learned to walk, making developmentally appropriate advances.

Study Buddies

Study Buddies provides after-school curriculum to promote positive study habits and offer a creative environment for students residing in the shelter. Volunteers from area colleges and businesses offer tutoring and mentoring support. The YWCA continues to partner with the Fargo Public Schools; the Study Buddies Coordinator serves as the Homeless Student Resource Coordinator for children in the school district.

BY THE NUMBERS

243

children enrolled in the Study Buddies after-school program

33%

increase in total number of children served in Study Buddies from 2009

99%

of the time, children are enrolled in school within three days of entering the shelter

Eric's Story (Name has been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

Eric came to the YWCA Emergency Shelter with his family to escape homelessness and domestic violence. As the second to youngest of four children, Eric sometimes seemed "invisible" to his family. Being witness to episodes of domestic violence and feeling the frustration of homelessness, Eric began showing signs of anger. When Eric started attending Study Buddies, he would act out for attention and would run off in a fit of anger if he did not receive that attention. Over time, Eric continued to show aggressive behaviors and began fighting with other students. As the Study Buddies volunteer base grew, and Eric became familiar with the Study Buddies Coordinator, Eric was given the attention that he craved and the incidents of physical aggression and verbal outbursts diminished. Eric showed that he could focus on his homework for extended periods of time. His grades improved, his behaviors improved, and his peer relationships improved. Eric had become accustomed to the Study Buddies structure and rules. Eric's mother reports that he still has his work ethic and finishes his homework each day.

Parent Education

The Parent Education program within the Emergency Shelter is one part of the education component offered onsite at the YWCA, focusing on positive parenting. Through the program, moms are given the opportunity to speak with the Parent Education Specialist (PES) about any concerns they may have about parenting, as well as focus on the strengths they'd like to build upon. Many resources are available to mothers in the areas of discipline, nurturing, routines, developmental stages, temper tantrums, anger in children, and relationships. When needed, referrals are offered to both moms and children for play therapy, interventions, developmental screenings, ongoing parenting classes in the community, and to agencies such as the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center, Youthworks, and Right Track.

BY THE NUMBERS

416

participants attended classes

96%

of participants increased their knowledge

658

referrals were given to other agencies and service providers

Laura's Story (Name has been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

Laura had her first child at the age of 13. She had struggled to raise her children as a young mom with little support, but did the best she could. Her children had grown and started lives of their own. Laura found herself in a bad relationship and came to the YWCA for help. During this time her grandchild came to live with her due to a crisis in his family. Laura came to PES for advice on raising her grandchild, who had separation anxiety and was acting out. She also attended parent support groups where she was an active participant. During support group, Laura was very encouraging towards the other moms and used her experiences as examples. Laura explained to the PES, "I only wish I would have had this kind of support when I was 13 and had my first child. I can only imagine how differently my life would have turned out and how much my children would have benefitted." Laura had stayed at several shelters during the time she was raising her children and stated, "No shelter I've been at had help for parents. I was always on my own and if I needed help I just couldn't get it. The help I've received here has been amazing!"

Transitional & Permanent Supportive Housing

The Transitional Housing (TH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs provide secure, affordable housing and help participants develop the skills needed to achieve independence. Support services include case management, financial assistance with rent and utilities, transportation, and childcare. Women and their children may participate in the TH program for up to two years, and in the PSH program for as long as they need the additional support.

In August 2010, the YWCA Cass Clay was recognized as a housing leader by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Rick Garcia, Region XIII Administrator of the Department of HUD, presented the YWCA with a special recognition for 20 years of successful Transitional and Permanent Supportive housing for women and children.

Additionally, the YWCA Cass Clay Transitional Housing program has been identified as a top ten "model program" by The White House, upon the recommendation of the United States Department of HUD.

The program emphasizes the use of supportive housing as a means to assist low-income women and their children break the cycle of poverty. Emphasis is placed on helping women recognize their strengths and provide options to obtain self-sufficiency through a wide variety of programs and services, either offered directly by the YWCA or in coordination with other community human service agencies.

Iman's Story (Name has been changed to maintain confidentiality.)

Iman came to the Emergency Shelter in January 2009 to escape a domestic violence situation. She fled her home country as a political refugee and had been residing in the United States for eight months before seeking shelter at the YWCA. Upon her arrival, she had minimal possessions and relied on a friend or translator to communicate with YWCA staff. After four months at the Emergency Shelter, Iman was accepted into the Transitional Housing program. She attended English language classes during the day and worked evening shifts at a local business. During Iman's stay at the YWCA, she found out she had over \$4,000 in outstanding debt from an apartment she had lived in when she first came to the country, as well as a secured loan. Within four months of entering the Transitional Housing program, Iman worked on financial goals with her case manager and became debt free.

Iman was also seeking a divorce from her abusive husband. With the assistance of her case manager, she completed the appropriate paperwork, filed it properly, and the divorce was finalized in June 2010. Iman declared it "a fresh start." She has since enrolled full time at a local college while continuing to work full time in the evenings. Iman has completed her first semester of school and, because her English skills have improved so rapidly, she no longer needs an interpreter. Iman continued her journey in Transitional Housing, successfully accomplishing each and every goal she set for herself upon arrival at the Emergency Shelter. She continues to work hard and is very excited to see what the future holds for her.

BY THE NUMBERS

55
women and children lived in
Transitional Housing units

8,226
nights of housing were
provided to TH participants

11
women and children lived
in Permanent Supportive
Housing units

3,805
nights of housing were
provided to PSH participants

Justice Department Transitional Housing

The U.S. Department of Justice Transitional Housing (JDTH) program was added in 2007 specifically to assist victims of domestic violence (including dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault) with housing and supportive services. As incidents of domestic violence continue to rise, this is a much needed addition to the YWCA housing programs.

The JDTH program is a collaborative partnership between the YWCA Cass Clay, the Fargo Housing and Redevelopment Authority, and the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead. The primary goal of the program is to empower victims of domestic violence to become self-sufficient through housing and supportive services.

The basic objectives of the project are to provide housing and supportive services to victims of domestic violence. Once families have secured housing through the Fargo Housing and Redevelopment Authority, program participants can maintain stable housing by accessing case management, rental assistance, security deposits, moving expenses, transportation assistance, child care services (at the YWCA Shelter), Education and Employment programming (through the YWCA Shelter), and counseling through the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center.

Additionally, in 2009, the YWCA added the JDTH Recovery Act (JDTH-R) program as another avenue to serve more women and children in need of a safe home, filling the gap in housing services. The JDTH-R program complements the original JDTH program and will operate through 2012. In the fall of 2010, the original JDTH program was successfully extended for another three years, through 2013. As both of these programs are grant-dependent, the YWCA will continue to advocate for additional funding through the Violence Against Women Act to ensure the programs are able to continue into the future.

BY THE NUMBERS

29
women and children lived in
JDTH units

6,624
nights of housing were
provided to JDTH participants

19
women and children lived in
JDTH-R units

4,796
nights of housing were provided
to JDTH-R participants

A Child's World

A Child's World (ACW) is one of ten nationally accredited child care centers in North Dakota. The center provides high quality childcare for children in an environment that supports all families, regardless of their income, diversity, or family structure. ACW believes in the importance of early childhood development. The children enrolled are taught lesson plans that are part of the anti-bias curriculum using developmentally appropriate teaching techniques.

The mission of A Child's World is to prepare children to make their mark on the world.



A Child's World
a childcare center

The Year in Review

In January, we launched our United Way Scholarship Fund to help support families with one or both parents furthering their education. It was determined in February that our onsite Kindergarten program would be discontinued, with efforts refocusing on our Pre-K program which began in September. On March 31, we received notification that we were re-accredited by the National Association of the Education of Young Children through 2015. Accreditation is a mark of quality care, proving that ACW goes above and beyond for the children in our center.

ACW participated in the Week of the Young Child in April by having activities to celebrate children and their care providers. We also took part in the first Stand Against Racism, in which we provided anti-racism activities for the children. May and June were spent planning for our annual Wild Rumpus carnival fundraiser. We transformed the center into fun and games, and even added a dunk tank. Our summer months (June-August) were highlighted by running our largest summer camp yet, including converting the gym into an over-sized classroom. We provided care to 30 school age children who enjoyed field trips and new experiences every day. In September, we were the recipients of much needed sand to fill up the ACW playground by State Bank and Trust's Pay It Forward program. NDSU Resident Advisors volunteered to help spread the sand onto the playground - thank you! In December we were re-licensed for 2011. Overall, our year was full of highlights, and we can't wait to see what happens in 2011!

A Parent's Story

BY THE NUMBERS

92

children were enrolled as of December 31

140

children were provided care throughout the year

51,156

balanced meals were served

183,150

hours of childcare were provided

As new parents, we were very unsure about how to find a good childcare for our daughter. Upon a recommendation from a friend, we contacted A Child's World. Everything that we saw on our tour was better than anything that we had seen at other childcare centers, by far. We were ecstatic when we got a spot for our daughter, Lily. When that first day came, there were no concerns leaving our daughter with Miss Brenda and Miss Deb. They, along with all of the other staff, have treated Lily like part of their family since day one. Lily is excited every day to go to A Child's World. She has been able to experience many fun, new things and is learning something new each day. The staff is always encouraging her as she is trying to learn a new skill and are quick to notice if something is out of sorts so we are aware. We tell everyone how much we love A Child's World and recommend it to everyone we can. We are so thankful for the care that all of the staff at A Child's World takes with our child. It has been a great experience!

Jill and Pete Christopher
A Child's World Parents

TechGYRLS

TechGYRLS is a program offered to girls in grades four through seven, focusing on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) and is made possible through a grant and support from Microsoft. As a partnering program with NDSU's Engineering Department, it provides girls with a hands-on exploration of different technologies with the assistance of student mentors from the Society of Women Engineers. The goal is to help girls develop the confidence to use technology and further their interest in the area and application of STEM.



"She is really looking forward to Spy Day on Thursday! I just told her there was another session of TechGYRLS in January...she can't wait!! Thanks for such an awesome opportunity for girls!"

TechGYRLS Parent

BY THE NUMBERS

144

young girls participated in six different TechGYRLS sessions

40

facilitators and volunteers contributed their time to TechGYRLS

"She was adamant that she would not sign up for basketball, but she lit up when we talked about this."

TechGYRLS Parent

"I wish TechGYRLS was on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I know it was only the introduction class, but I really liked the girls in my class and I think the class will be really good."

TechGYRLS Participant (shared with Mom)

"Thank you for all you do to expose this fabulous experience to the girls."

TechGYRLS Parent

Racial Justice

The mission of the Racial Justice program is to encourage diversity and racial understanding through a variety of educational opportunities. The Racial Justice committee works with various community agencies such as schools, businesses, non-profits, and churches to explore how issues of stereotyping, prejudice and privilege foster racism and other forms of discrimination. The ultimate goal of the Racial Justice program is to help provide individuals with the tools needed to confront and begin to eliminate the aspects that fuel racism.

One especially important event which promotes racial justice in the community is Stand Against Racism, which occurs the last Friday in April. On this day, the YWCA collaborates with other organizations, businesses and educational institutions to take a stand against all forms of prejudice and discrimination. The YWCA Cass Clay participated in its first Stand Against Racism on April 20, 2010.

"Your presentation was very eye-opening. The way in which you described the concepts to the students was age-appropriate and easy to understand."

Stand Against Racism Participant

"The employees found the training and the topics covered to be enlightening and rewarding. The presenter was thorough, knowledgeable, and respectful."

Stand Against Racism Participant

BY THE NUMBERS

22

schools, churches, and businesses participated in Stand Against Racism

392

community members participated in trainings and dialogues

Volunteers & Special Events

The strength of the YWCA Cass Clay rests in the spirit and energy of our dedicated volunteers who contribute both their time and talent to its mission of empowering women and eliminating racism.

YWCA volunteers engage in all types of activities such as preparing and serving meals, tutoring, translation, child care, or helping with administrative projects. In addition, volunteers are involved in all of the YWCA's programs, including the Emergency Shelter, Shelter Children's Services, TechGYRLS, Transitional Housing, Education & Employment, and A Child's World.

"I have been volunteering with the YWCA for four years. My time here has been both a humbling and enriching experience. It is surprising how organizing donations, handing out food baskets, or playing a game with a child can have a positive impact, and allows the staff more time to do what they do best. At the YWCA you aren't just a volunteer, you are one of a team that is making a difference in this community."

YWCA Volunteer

BY THE NUMBERS

1,559

individuals volunteered their time

7,986

hours volunteered by community, committee, and board members

\$128,015

value of volunteer hours, based on the North Dakota average of \$16.03/hour

The YWCA Cass Clay had an amazing year with all of the special events in 2010. Thank you to all of the donors, committee members, volunteers, and community members who continue to make our special events spectacular.

Chocolate Fantasy and Chili, too! offered the nearly 1,000 in attendance a sampling of the best chocolate and chili in town. The 27th annual event was held for the third year at the Fargo Holiday Inn. This decadent event continues to be a favorite of the Cass and Clay communities.



We honored our 15th annual **Week Without Violence** by hosting U.S. Attorney Timothy Purdon at the Emergency Shelter. Additionally, City of Fargo Mayor Dennis Walaker, City of West Fargo Mayor Rich Mattern, and City of Moorhead Mayor Mark Voxland officially proclaimed October 17-23 to be the YWCA Week Without Violence.



The 37th Annual **Women of the Year** was an amazing night honoring women and supporting the Emergency Shelter. We celebrated the nominations of 32 outstanding women and organizations, recognizing eleven of them with a Woman of the Year award. A crowd of over 500 people celebrated with the YWCA on April 12.



2010 Women of the Year Recipients

Patricia Patron, *Advocating for Equality*

Kay Hilde, *Arts & Communications*

Danette Nicoloff, *Business*

Vogel Law Firm, *Business/Organization that Empowers Women*

Cindy Miller, *Community Service*

Penny Andrist, *Education*

Paula Mehmel, *Faith Community*

Shelly Richard, *Volunteer Service*

Tracie Mallberg, *Wellness*

Amanda Cashman, *Young Woman of Today & Tomorrow*

Adair Grommesh, *Youth Advocacy*

Finance

The following is an unaudited Balance Sheet and Statement of Activities as of December 31, 2010. A corporate audit will be completed by independent Auditors in February 2011.

Balance Sheet (as of 12/31/10)

ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 265,206
Accounts Receivable	\$ 96,848
Endowment Fund	\$ 676,765
Property, Plant & Equipment Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$3,947,120
TOTAL ASSETS	\$4,985,939

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Short-Term Liabilities	\$ 99,204
Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 994,284
Equity	\$3,892,451
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$4,985,939

Statement of Activities (as of 12/31/10)

REVENUE		
Contributions	\$ 525,106	20%
United Way	\$ 282,043	11%
Government Support	\$ 912,917	36%
Foundation Grants	\$ 163,252	6%
Tuition & Fees	\$ 633,214	25%
Miscellaneous	\$ 46,418	2%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,562,950	100%

EXPENSES		
Shelter	\$ 605,907	24%
Education & Employment	\$ 68,038	3%
Shelter Children's Services	\$ 188,024	7%
Administration & Other Programming	\$ 309,890	12%
A Child's World	\$ 710,151	28%
Housing	\$ 678,115	26%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,560,125	100%

Sponsor a Day & Membership

BY THE NUMBERS

\$33

a day covers the cost for a woman or her child to stay in our shelter

1,154

days of shelter were provided through this program

\$35

a year provides a YWCA membership

It costs \$33 a day for each woman or child to stay in the Emergency Shelter. This \$33 per day provides food, shelter, case management, education & employment training, and childcare services. Through the generosity of individual donors, over the past year many people contributed to the YWCA Sponsor a Day of Shelter program. This allowed 1,154 women and children to stay at our shelter for one night. Thanks to our donors, we provided shelter for over three individuals per day for the entire year through this campaign. Sponsoring a day of shelter in someone's name is a wonderful way to honor or pay tribute to important people in your life.

The YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's membership movement in the world. Your \$35 annual donation to membership supports the operations of all YWCA programs and helps further our work of eliminating racism and empowering women. We invite you to become a member today.

Our Donors

Thank you to our generous donors who contributed to our general operating and endowment funds in 2010.

Partner in Justice \$100,000+

Gate City Bank
United Way

Partner in Dignity \$25,000-\$99,999

Dakota Medical Foundation
Jordahl Custom Homes
Microsoft
Otto Bremer Foundation
Sanford Health

Partner in Freedom \$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous
Alex Stern Family Foundation
Border States Electric Supply
First Lutheran Church of Fargo
-including "Homeless & Hungry"
Hornbacher's
Jan & David McNair Family Fund
James Kertz
Elsie Pitsenbarger
Savers, Inc.
State Bank & Trust

Partner in Peace \$5,000-\$9,999

Best Buy
Eide Bailly LLP
First Lutheran Church Foundation
FM AM Rotary Club - "Lobster & Lefse"
F-M Cosmopolitan Club
Goldmark Property Management
Hope Lutheran Church
Kiwanis Club of Fargo Foundation
Noel & Judy Fedje Foundation
POWER Fund
Marjorie Schlossman
Judith Spellman
Wells Fargo - Capital Finance
West Acres Development Co.

Partner in Courage \$2,500-\$4,999

Bank of the West
Bremer Bank
CoBank
Dakota Supply Group
Elmer & Kaya Berg Foundation
Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation
First Presbyterian Church
Sandra Johnson
Jean & James Jorgenson
Denise & Mark Magness
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Toppers Custom Car Club

Partner in Hope \$1,000-\$2,499

Jane & Thomas Ahlin
Alerus Financial
Robert & Doris Alin
Anda Properties & Development
Sonja & Scott Anderson
Bertha Stromme Charitable Trust
Dr. Ron & Kim Burd
Matt & Jo Ann Butler
Laura & Cole Carley
Cass County Bar Association
Mark Chalimonczyk
Combined Federal Campaign
Dawn Cruff-Kartes
Callie Dady
Georgia & Thomas Dawson
Dawson Insurance Agency
Jennifer & Chris Dorsey
Shelley Earsley
Janis Eidsness
ELCA Hunger Grant
Thomas & Carolyn Espel
Fargo Lions Club
First Lutheran Church WELCA
First Presbyterian Church - Town Hall Series
Fraser Ltd.
Great Plains Food Bank
Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches -
MN Foodshare
Charlotte & Gary Griffeth
Pamela Gruchalla

Joyce & John Hajostek
Ruth & Gary Hanson
Hawley Area United Fund
Heartland Trust Company
Jane Hella
Hope Lutheran Foundation
Jill & Gary Inman
Willy & Arland Jacobson
Irene Johnson
Jo Johnson
Ramona Johnson
Kava Construction
Sindy & Brad Keller
Betty Kuklish
Kari Larson
Lavelle Co.
Randy & Mary Jo Lewis
Elizabeth & John Lyngstad
Karla & Rob Lyngstad
Beth & Richard Marsden
NDSU
Donna Nelson

New York Life - Toby Bishop
Open Your Heart to the Homeless & Hungry
Ottertail Corporation
Pass it on Ministry - Trinity Lutheran Church
Thrift Store
Pamela Patten
Eunice Plunkett
Chitra Ramanathan & Shashank Jolly
LuAnn Regan
Robert & Joan Scheel
William & Mary Schlossman
Mary & Al Severson
Roxy & Donald Shorma
Beth Ann & George Smith
Marsha & Lyle Songstad
Seroptimist International of Moorhead
Bergliot Turmo
Marcia Ubbelohde
US Bank Foundation
Walmart Stores of Fargo-Moorhead
Warner & Company
Weisgram Metal Fab, Inc.
West Fargo Exchange Club
Zonta of Fargo-Moorhead

Partner in Empowerment \$500-\$999

Stacey Ackerman
Atonement Lutheran Church
Joan Bachman
Barrie Congregational Church
Elaine Baumgartner
Debra & David Beard
Lori Beckius
Bennett Elementary
Kathryn Benson
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Carolyn & Richard Blaine
Bobcat Company
Bridge-O-Rama
Angela Bruer-Balouch
Harold Burley
Calvary United Methodist Church
Matt & Kristi Carlson
Catalyst Medical Center
Rachel & Josh Clarke
Cole Papers
Concordia College Public Relations Club
Cornerstone Bank
Patricia Crary
Carol Current
Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist
Church
Byron & Virginia Danielson
Sarah & Mike DeVries
Diane Earl
Edgewood Vista
Jack & Harriet Evert
F-M Area Association of Realtors
F-M Builders & Traders Exchange
Fargo Rotary Club
Fargo West Rotary
Farmers Union Insurance
Fiebigler, Swanson, West & Co.

Foss Architecture & Interiors
Janet Geston
Arthur & Esther Grimstad
Valerie Halvorson
Joann Hancock
Michelle & Steven Lyons Hanson
June & Harold Hayer
HCR Manorcare Foundation
Anne Hoefgen
Dorothy Hoffelt
Eugenie & Patrick Hoggard
Holy Resurrection Orthodox Mission Church
JoAnn Hornbacher
Hunger Solutions
Sandy Huseby
IdeaOne Telecom
Anna Marie Johnson
Julie & Kevin Keogh
Kilbourne Group LLC
Rhonda King
Sarah & B.J. Knutson
Lambda Delta Sigma
LaMoure County Food Pantry
Paula & Bill Lavelle
Mark & Carolyn Lillehaugen
Lutheran Church of the Cross
Brandi Malarkey
Tracie Mallberg
Maring Williams Law Office, P.C.
Gerald & Judi McDonald
Andria & John Messelt
Tammy Miller
Margaret & Roger Nelson
Marjo Nelson
Noridian Mutual Insurance Company
Shawn Nulph
Olivet Lutheran Church
Park Company Realtors
Payless Shoes
Peace Lutheran Church
Becky & Mike Pfau
Nicole Plecity
Pontoppidan Lutheran Church
Evelyn Quigley
Rape & Abuse Crisis Center
RDO Equipment Co.
Douglas & Carol Riedinger
Robert Asp Elementary School
Steve & Jeanine Rodvold
Sherri & Gregory Sandvig
Scheels
Sara Schilke
Kristopher Smith
Starion Financial
Virginia Stewart
The Barry Foundation - PaY
The Title Company
Amanda & John Thomas
Rachel Tompt
Union State Bank
Bette Vandersteen
Sheila Vedquam
VFW Club #7564
Vogel Law Firm
Kay Weisgram
Dean & Annette Welk
Wells Fargo Bank
Jane Ann Williamson

Government Services

Cass County Social Services
Child & Adult Care Food Program
City of Fargo
Clay County Social Services
Emergency Food & Shelter Program
Fargo Public Schools - Homeless Student
Coordinator
ND Division of Community Services -
Emergency Shelter Grant (ESG)
ND Homeless Prevention & Rapid Re-
Housing Program
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban
Development (HUD)
U.S. Department of Justice - Office on
Violence Against Women

PEACE

JUSTICE

FREEDOM

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

DIGNITY

annual
REPORT
2010