

our voice

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

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southeastern massachusetts

ywca earns \$1 million grant

Senator Mark Montigny's office recently informed the YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts that Governor Deval Patrick included a \$1 million grant in the recently released Five Year Capital Investment Plan administered by the Department of Administration and Finance. The \$1 million in funding for the project was initially sponsored by Senator Montigny and Representative Antonio Cabral in the General Bond Bill, signed by Gov. Patrick in 2008. Monies will be released in equal amounts of \$500,000 in each of the next two years.



"The state's Capital Plan provides tools to make key investments in our communities and our Commonwealth's future," said Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray. "Governor Patrick and I were pleased to work with the YWCA Southeastern MA and support funding that will allow the YWCA to continue to do great work more efficiently in the region, while also preserving its historic building."

"The YWCA provides crucial services to area women in need," Senator Montigny said. "The \$1 million grant will not only preserve the historic nature of the YWCA's Levi Standish House but allow it to be adapted for the many modern uses needed by the YWCA to further its mission to aid women and children." "These funds will allow the YWCA to expand the critical services it provides to women and children in the SouthCoast," declared Representative Antonio Cabral.

"I'm pleased that the Patrick-Murray administration has joined the City of New Bedford in supporting "Under One Roof," said Mayor Jon Mitchell. "The City has long recognized the tremendous positive impact this project would have on New Bedford children and families, and invested \$250,000 of our precious CDBG funds to help move the project closer to fruition. This level of investment on the part of the Commonwealth is a clear validation of the quality of this project. I congratulate the YWCA for their tireless efforts on behalf of New Bedford families, and thank the Patrick-Murray administration for their continued support of projects that improve the quality of life for New Bedford residents."

In 2008, the YWCA announced plans for a transformative project to relocate its heavily-relied upon programs from rented facilities onto its property at 20 South Sixth Street. Over \$1 million had already been raised and invested in restoring the YWCA's historic mansion, the Levi Standish House. This included \$250,000 from the City of New Bedford and \$250,000 from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The next major step was a \$4.6 million 12,800 square foot, state-of-the-art building addition that would support the next century of services for New Bedford area women, children and the elderly, bringing YWCA services "Under One Roof." Now this project is \$1 million closer to breaking ground in spring 2013, with \$1.1 million left to raise.

The final construction drawings of Litman Architecture will be complete in December. This carefully designed, LEED certified building will include the BayCoast Bank Teen Center, the Highland Street Women's Resource Center, the Kaplan YWkids Childcare Center, a multipurpose room, and women's congregate housing units. There are several prominent naming opportunities still available throughout this three story building.

"We couldn't be more excited about Governor Patrick's decision to support the YWCA as a priority project. And we recognize the instrumental support of Lt. Governor Murray, and the tireless advocacy of Senator Montigny and Representative Cabral in drafting the legislation back in 2008 to support the YWCA," stated Jan Baptist, the YWCA's Board President. "As we raise the final million dollars, working with Mayor Jon Mitchell and our donors, we are more than confident about realizing this exciting vision for the YWCA's 5,000 women, children and families."

ywkids celebrates 25 years!

On September 13, 2012, YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts celebrated the 25th anniversary of the YWkids School Age Program with a sunset cruise aboard the Cuttyhunk Ferry.



17th annual ywca week without violence

YWCA Week Without Violence kicked off its 17th annual awareness campaign during the week of October 14-20, 2012.

Each day of the YWCA Week Without Violence was devoted to a specific issue: Sunday, October 14, "A Day of Remembrance;" Monday, October 15, "Protecting Our Children;" Tuesday, October 16, "Making Our Schools Safer;" Wednesday, October 17, "Confronting Violence Against Women;" Thursday, October 18, "Facing Violence Among Men;" Friday, October 19, "Eliminating Racism and Hate Crime;" and Saturday, October 20, "Replacing Violence with Sports, Recreation and Fun."

The community was invited to visit the YWCA's Week Without Violence webpage at www.ywcasema.org for activities and resources. Some of the week's highlights included the collaboration of area schools in the "Hands are for Helping, Not Hitting" activity and the Clothesline Project at UMASS Dartmouth. Thank you to those who participated...



Alma del Mar School
New Bedford Global Learning Charter Public School
Nativity Preparatory School
Our Sisters' School
YWkids School Age Program

UMASS Dartmouth
Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality
Rho Sigma Phi Sorority
New Bedford Police Department
Domestic Violence Unit

pictured left: "Hands are for Helping" activity by students at Our Sisters' School. pictured right: "Hands" by students at Nativity Preparatory School



komen walk



YWCA Team Waterpals raised \$900 for Susan G. Komen's Race for the Cure on Sunday, October 20th. The Massachusetts Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® funds YWCA Health & Wellness education and outreach.

save the dates

100th Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 5th
6pm

Fairfield Inn & Suites
Waypoint Conference Center
Vineyard Room
185 MacArthur Drive
New Bedford, MA

**10th Annual Red Dress
Fashion Show & Silent
Auction**

Tuesday, February 26th
5:30pm

Century House
107 South Main Street
Acushnet, MA

2012 elections

You've registered to vote, and you've read up on the issues at www.ywcavote.org, but do you know where you need to go to cast your ballot on Election Day? Check the status of your voter registration and find your polling place at: www.canivote.org.

Exercising your right to vote isn't about choosing a side. It's about taking the outcome of the upcoming election into your own hands. The women's vote can sway the election – it's our chance to make history while taking a stand on the issues most important for us.

Woman to woman, on November 6th, it will be time to vote in support of a direction that supports women and girls as they develop strengths and sustain their lives.

On the YWCA watch and action list are programs, policies and initiatives that support, preserve and protect equal opportunity and pay equity, the Violence Against Women Act, the Women's Workforce Bill, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and hate crimes enforcement to protect all people from violence on the basis of race, sex, gender, religion, ethnicity, age, disability, or sexual orientation. For the YWCA's public policy profile, go to: www.ywcavote.org.

See YOU at the polls!

I AM
a
WOMAN
who
COUNTS
I VOTE



staff recognitions

Welcome to the YWCA!

Lexis Duarte and **Elizabeth Brown** joined us this fall as *Assistant Group Leaders at YWkids*.

Jenny Rios joined us as a *Community Health Worker*.

Michelle Oliveri is our new *Teen Services Instructor*.

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YWkids Group Leader
YWkids Group Leader
YWkids Assistant Group Leader
YWkids Assistant Group Leader
Teen Services Coordinator
Teen Services Instructor

Community Health Worker
Community Health Worker
Community Health Worker

Widowed Persons Director

Residential Staff

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20 South Sixth Street
New Bedford, MA 02740



United Way
of Greater New Bedford

our voice

for information on any of our
programs & services, please
call: **508-999-3255** or go to:
www.ywcasema.org