

eliminating racism  
empowering women

**ywca**

southeastern massachusetts

ywca southeastern ma

20 south sixth street

new bedford, ma 02740

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022



## our mission

**YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.**



# YWCA Core Values

## BOLD

We recognize the unique challenges impacting our community and have the collective strength to work toward a more just and equitable society that benefits everyone. We foster and encourage courageous ideas and bold leadership. We challenge ourselves to evolve and expand our impact across a broad range of racial and gender equity issues.

## INCLUSION

We strive to be an organization where everyone feels confident in their contribution to meaningfully serve the community and cooperates to achieve our shared vision. We celebrate and respect our differences, we recognize the dignity of each individual, and we value and honor individual ideas, contributions and opinions.



## COMPASSION

We are genuinely concerned about the community we serve and their needs, and we center their perspectives when it comes to best serving and empowering them. We believe that impacting lives begins with understanding individual needs. We listen, we learn, and we respond.

## RESILIENT

We are the oldest and largest multiracial women's organization in the world. We have always been – and will always continue to be – leaders for racial justice and women's empowerment. We adapt and persevere during times of difficulty, we are committed to our mission, and we are authentic in our word and deed.



Dear Friends,

YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts carries on its long tradition of social action, racial justice and advocacy to advance our mission. As we work on policies that bring us closer to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all – your voice is a crucial part of this work and must be heard.

We thank all of you who have stood side by side with us in this endeavor this year, and what a year it was! We continue to do the work each and every day for our community on issues related to accessible child care, board parity, menstrual access, housing security, voter education, COVID outreach and many more issues that are important to women, girls, people of color and their families. The world stopped that warm day in June when Roe V. Wade was overturned. This was shocking to all of us. We galvanized groups of people and moved to the streets, still in disbelief that 50 years of legislation had now disappeared. Along with other community stakeholders we formed the Our Bodies Our Lives Coalition for Reproductive Justice and Bodily Autonomy to look at resources, access, advocacy and education in our region around this crucial issue. We worked with the Women's Alliance of Southeastern MA to hold forums, write op eds, and march weekly throughout the summer to advocate for choice about our

bodies. We will continue to work on these gender equity and racial justice issues over the next year.

Special thank you to the YWCA staff, who have worked tirelessly this year to provide needed programs and services to our participants. I appreciate all of your dedication and support to the YWCA and our Mission! Thank you to our Board of Directors, who all truly are passionate about our work and provide strategic guidance, leadership and support to the organization. Thank you to our Board President, Lindsay Carter- Monteiro, who is always there to support me, our staff, board and others as we completed year one of our strategic plan. I truly enjoy working with you.

Thank you to our donors, volunteers, friends and supporters. Without you, our work would not be possible.

As we look ahead to 2023, I am hopeful that we can continue to expand our programs, provide more services, and develop opportunities for women, people of color, adults, youth and their families.

Thank you for your support. You too can make a difference.

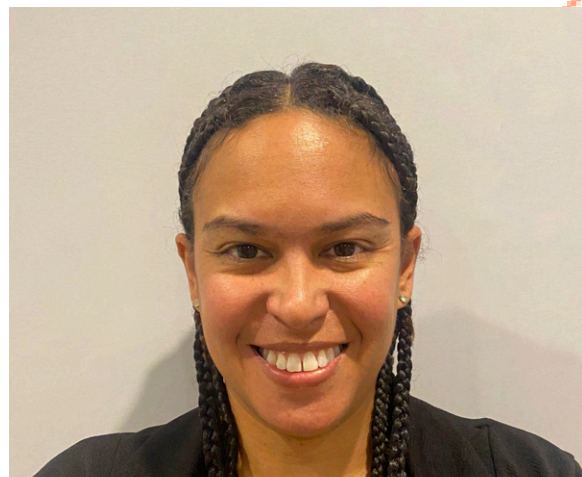
Equality, Inclusivity and Justice for all!



*Gail Fortes*

## Dear Friends,

As I reflect on this past year, I am grateful and motivated by the work that the YWCA Southeastern Ma continues to do. I am thankful for the YW staff and the Board of Directors especially our officers, Vice President Patricia Garcelon, Treasurer Kelli Monroe, Asst. Treasurer Kendyll Ramos and Clerk Shai Spinola-Ramos. The staff of the YWCA continue to say YES! We all know that non-profit work isn't a Monday through Friday, 9-5 type of job. I recognize the value of their dedication to our mission, clients and our community. Without their commitment to our YWCA mission, all that we have accomplished would not



be possible. Even with the extraordinary staff at the YWCA, we don't do this work alone. We wouldn't be able to do any of our outreach without our donors, volunteers, sponsors, interns & other non-profit organizations in our community.

It is essential that we continue to stand together and have our collective voices heard. We at the YWCA stand side by side with each other. The YWCA Southeastern MA is blessed to have our Executive Director, Gail Fortes. I am appreciative of her countless years of service dedicated to the YWCA Southeastern Ma. It is sincerely a privilege to work with her and the YW staff under her leadership. In November, the YWCA received the Apex Award for Non-profit of the Year from One Southcoast Chamber. If you could hear the roar that came from our table when they announced the YWCA.....it was a genuine tribute of the respect and enthusiasm that the YW staff and board have for our fearless leader!

What the YWCA does in our community goes far beyond any of my words. All I can say is Thank YOU! I look forward to another year of working together to support our mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace justice and dignity for ALL.

With Love and Gratitude,  
Lindsay Carter-Monteiro

### Some Highlights from 2022:

- Provide Equitable Child Care for families
- Residential Services Supportive Services for women
- Educate to prevent & reduce the spread of COVID-19 through outreach
- Health Equity Community of Practice with the Board of Health
- Widow Persons Program
- Sacred Talk (A safe, anonymous space for pregnant women & mothers to talk through their experiences)
- FREE Digital literacy workshops
- Allyship: From Ally to All in virtual workshop
- Break the Bias: Addressing & Mitigating Implicit Bias virtual workshop
- Panel Discussion of Reproductive Health
- Bodily Autonomy Coalition
- Board Leadership Program
- Halloween Craft Fair
- Virtual Annual Red Dress Event to raise awareness of cardiovascular disease in women

# YWCA STAFF

## GAIL FORTES

Executive Director



## ANDREA DAVIDSON

Director of Adult and Youth Services

### ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES:

#### LISA ROGERS

Finance Director

#### ANNAMARIE LOPES

Finance Clerk

#### JACK DAVIS

Facilities Manager

#### MARIA MORRIS

Administrative Assistant

### ADVOCACY & DEVELOPMENT:

#### DAVID GUADALUPE

Director of Mission Impact

#### LEIMARY LLOPIZ

Advocacy Coordinator

#### KAYLA MARSHALL

Development & Communications  
Coordinator

### YOUTH SERVICES:

#### BARBARA GARRON

YWkids Group Leader

#### NANETTE RAMOS

YWkids Group Leader

#### YVONNE ALBUQUERQUE

YWkids Assistant Group Leader

#### JENDALL TEIXEIRA

YWkids Assistant Group  
Leader

#### MEGHA PATEL

YWkids Assistant Group  
Leader

#### PHOEBE MARSHALL

Youth Services Mental Health  
Clinician

#### HENRY AJ

YWkids Assistant Group  
Leader

### ADULT SERVICES:

#### JANE ROCHA

Widowed Persons Program Director

### RESIDENTIAL SERVICES:

#### KANTARA MYERS

Residential Services Coordinator

### HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

#### VALENTINA MARTINEZ

Community Health Worker

# YWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**LINDSAY CARTER- MONTEIRO**

President

**PATRICIA GARCELON**

Vice President

**SHAI SPINOLA-  
RAMOS**

Clerk

**KENDYLL RAMOS**

Assistant Treasurer

**KELLI MUNROE**

Treasurer

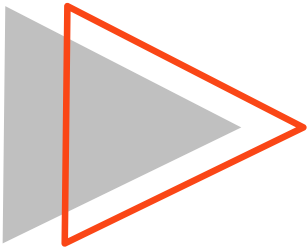
**MONICA FURTADO  
CORDAY SILVA, LICSW  
ELIZETE PERRY**

**REBECCA LALIBERTE  
LYNNE MASTERA  
NATHALIE CONCEPCION  
LESLIE POULIN**

**JEAN LIM CUDJOE  
MALI LIM  
INE OGAGAN**

**GAIL FORTES**

Ex-Officio



# **YWCA SOUTHEASTERN MA STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-2025 YEAR ONE RESULTS**

**Our Mission:** YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

**Our Vision:** A healthy community transformed by racial and gender equity, where diversity is embraced and celebrated and all people belong & thrive.

## **STRATEGIC GOALS:**

### **1. Increase investments in the YWCA staff in order to model equitable compensation packages for all staff.**

#### **A. Conducted an equity study on staff compensation packages.**

- Formed an ad hoc committee to review staff compensation and benefits.
- Conducted an employee compensation and benefits survey.
- Reviewed all salaries, job descriptions and benefits.
- Developed a plan to increase staff compensation and benefit packages for 2022-2023.

#### **B. Increase staff leadership capacity.**

- Developed workplans for all members of the staff, assessed staff professional development needs and provided leadership opportunities for staff.

### **2. Expand anti-racism work to communities outside of Greater New Bedford.**

#### **A. Hired a Director of Mission Impact.**

- Revised fee for service structure.

### **3. Increase the number of people served in YWCA's Residential Program by 50% by the end of 2024.**

- Created an ad hoc housing committee to assess community needs.
- Hired a Residential Services Coordinator.
- Worked with a local realtor to determine available properties for potential housing programs.

### **4. Increase funding by 10% per year for three years so that the YWCA can build on its work to eliminate racism and empower women in Southeastern MA in 2022-2024.**

- Hired a Director of Resource Development.
- Promoted Resource Development Assistant to Development and Communications Coordinator.



# INCOME & EXPENSES

Financials for July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Audit prepared by Clifton, Larson and Allen, LLP



Create Opportunities

## 2022 Audit Highlights

### Assets – changes from the prior year

- Increase in operating cash of \$436k and decrease in restricted cash of \$176k
- Increase in accounts receivable of \$217k (primarily due to ERC)
- Increase in investments of \$112k
- Increase in property and equipment of \$54k

### Liabilities – changes from the prior year

- Decrease in accounts payable and accrued expenses of \$48k
- Decrease in long-term debt of \$60k

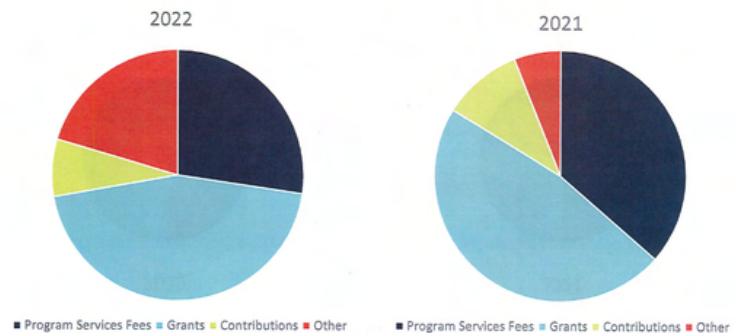
### Revenues and support – overall increase of \$433k

- Grants increased by \$203k
- Program service fees increased by \$10k
- Investment activity resulted in a loss of \$51k this year as opposed a gain of \$64k last year
- Other income increased by \$443k – due to PPP Forgiveness and ERC

### Functional Expenses – overall increase of \$136k

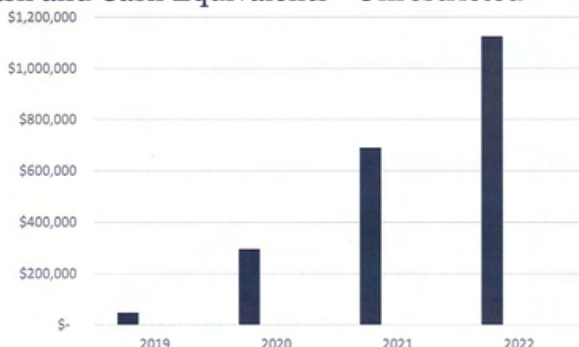
#### Natural Expense Classification Breakout

#### Summary of Revenues and Support



#### Total Cash and Cash Equivalents - Unrestricted

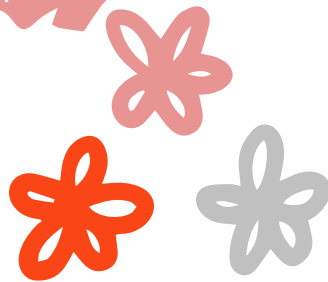
#### Functional Expense Breakout



Equates to Days Cash on Hand of 315 days for 2022 compared to 215 days for 2021

# GIRLS EXCLUSIVE

This past year the Girls Exclusive program has touched upon a number of topics including getting ready for school, being grateful, bullying, self esteem, kindness, journaling, and advocacy for human rights. The girls worked on these skills through activities such as painting, planting, tie dye shirts, friendship bracelets, and team building. They also had the opportunity to get to know one another via a number of trips, rock climbing, bowling, and beach trips!



“What this taught me was to not bully and if someone is bullying remember what they might be going through, How this made me feel was bad. Because I never realized that bullying was that harmful.”



**UNITED WE STAND.  
TOGETHER WE ACT.**

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT.**

**UNTIL  
JUSTICE  
JUST IS**

# ADVOCACY

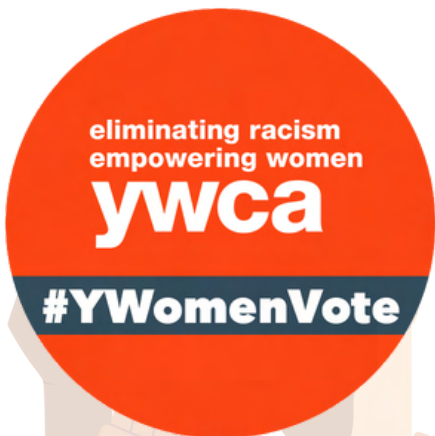
The YWCA remains at the forefront of addressing issues of racial and gender inequities. We are a member of a regional and national movement working together to strengthen our voice in the local, state and national governments.

Advocacy Coordinator Leimary Llopiz has her feet on the ground, helping lead a number of projects getting the word out about issues facing our community.

She led the Southeastern MA Women Alliance's We Won't go Back March on July 9th and was a featured panelist on the New Bedford Light's series The Chat discussing abortion in Southeastern MA and consequences of the SCOTUS decision.

Each week packages with menstrual hygiene products and other personal hygiene items such as hand sanitizer are distributed to women across the Southcoast through programs such as PACE's Diapers and Things Program, or given directly to women in our residential program.

With efforts led by Leimary and the help of two interns, we have partnered with Mass Voter Table to help provide outreach to encourage people to register to vote and make a plan to vote.



**STAND  
AGAINST  
RACISM**

**WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE**





# 19th Annual Red Dress Event



Heart disease is a community and national issue as it continues to be the number one leading cause of death for women in America. Only 1 in 5 American women believe that heart disease is her greatest health threat.

YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts hosted its 19th Annual Red Dress Event virtually. The event raised funds to support our Community Health Workers, who provide heart-health education and raise awareness about heart disease throughout the Southcoast region, primarily serving women of color, older women and low-income women. This program also assists women with obtaining health screenings necessary for them to identify their own personal risk. Although the event was virtual, attendees were able to enjoy a variety of auction items, raffles, music, an after party, and, of course, the fashion show!

*A special thank you to our Coco Chanel Title Sponsor: Southcoast Health!*

We thank all of the businesses and organizations who sponsored and donated to the event, Dartmouth Cable TV for filming the event, our models, Red Dress fashion boutiques, guests, Red Dress Committee, Monaghan's Printing Company for donating the programs, YWCA staff, volunteers and Board of Directors for working together to make this event a huge success!



# 13th Annual Women of Distinction Awards

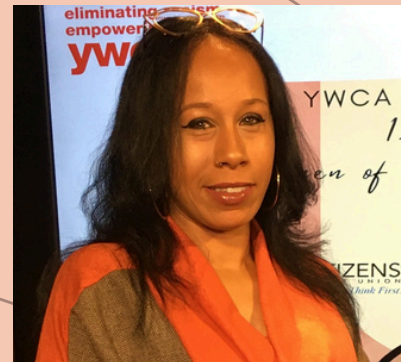
They're women who have made their mark in a variety of Southcoast arenas and YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts honored them on November 17, 2022, as "Women of Distinction."

This year's Women of Distinction awardees include Jallyssa Cabrera, Chakira Gonsalves, Juliet Loranger, Mirian Moultrie, and Amanda Trask. They were joined by this year's Spirit of Leadership Awardee Tanisha Ferrer, and Yvonne M. Drayton Awardee, Maria Pinarreta.

YWCA Women of Distinction Awards recognizes outstanding women in our region, whose lives and leadership, accomplishments reflect the YWCA's Mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. They are recognized for their exceptional commitment to improving the lives of women, girls

and people of color through their leadership, advocacy, and community service, while achieving success in their career fields.

The YWCA is forever grateful to the continued support, advocacy, and commitment demonstrated by these local community leaders. Their persistent determination to succeed epitomizes the YWCA's mission to ensure peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.



Special thanks to the individuals, businesses, and foundations which enable YWCA Southeastern MA to advance its mission through their generous financial support. This list reflects donations received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022. We apologize for misspelling or omitting the name of anyone who made a gift during the fiscal year.

**Advocacy**

(Including the Justice Flow Menstrual Access Project)

**donors**

Anonymous  
 Causemedia Inc.  
 Kendyll Ramos  
 Kristina da Fonseca, esq.  
 Maria Poulos  
 Martin Bentz  
 Patricia Harrington

**grantors/foundations**

Island Foundation- Women's Health  
 Women's Fund of Southcoast  
 MA Voter Table Democracy HUBS IVE

**Health & Wellness**

**grantors/foundations**

HiRA COVID-19 Vaccine Grant  
 Sara Elizabeth O'Brien Trust  
 Coastline Elderly Services  
 Sailors' Snug Harbor  
 Island Foundation-Women's Health

**Residential Services**

**donors**

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**grantors/foundations**

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Pauline Costa  
 Rosalie Nadeau  
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 Saunders-Dwyer Home for Funerals  
 Sonja White

**grantors/foundations**

Coastline Elderly Services  
 Sophia Romero Trust  
 Association for the Relief of Aged Women

**Economic Advancement**

**grantors/foundations**

MA State Treasurer Office for Veterans; Money Wise  
 SouthCoast Community Foundation: Hawthorn Medical Association  
 Blum Shapiro  
 Comcast Foundation/YWCA USA  
 United Way of Greater Fall River

**Racial Justice**

**donors**

Laura Ryan  
 Margaret Connolly Masson  
 Nathalie Concepcion

**grantors/foundations**

First Citizens Federal Credit Union  
 Island Foundation  
 New Commonwealth Fund  
 Southcoast Community Foundation-Leadership Equity Fund

**General Operations**

**volunteers - Board of Directors**

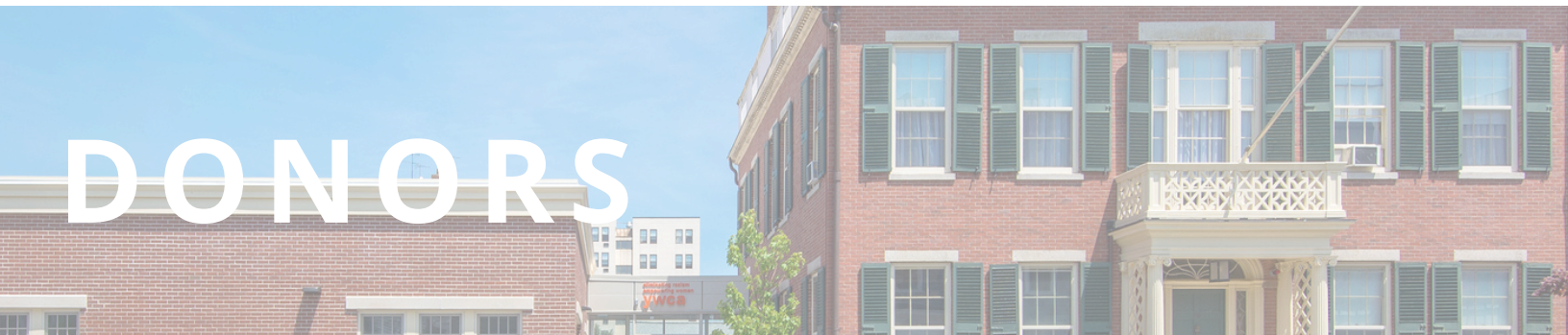
Jane Gonsalves  
 Kristina daFonseca, esq.  
 Kelli Munroe  
 Patt Garcelon  
 Rita Braga  
 Nina Bousarath  
 Lindsay Carter-Monteiro  
 Nathalie Concepcion  
 Monica Furtado  
 Rebecca Laliberte  
 Jean Lim Cudjoe  
 Lynne Mastera  
 Kendyll Ramos  
 Corday Silva  
 Shai Spinola-Ramos

Leslie Poulin  
 Mali Lim

Ine Ogagan  
 Elizete Perry  
 Kristy Silva

**donors**

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**DONORS**

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Deborah Baker  
 Dennis & Nancy Robillard  
 Donna Wirzburger  
 Dorothy Lopes  
 Elizabeth Dicarlo&Beverly Baccelli  
 Elizete Perry  
 Eric Paradis  
 Ethan Weiss  
 Eusie Zane  
 Gail Fortes  
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 Mary Zane  
 Maryann Kepinski  
 Mattapoissett Woman's Club

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 Venda Heywood  
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 Virginia Meany  
 Walter Chomak and Wendy Hall  
 William & Tobey Shea  
 William Shea  
 Yolanda Dennis  
 Yvonne Drayton  
 grants/foundations  
 Kurtz Family Foundation  
 Bromley Charitable Trust  
 Chomak Giving Fund  
 YWCA USA

**YWkids School Age Program**

**donors**  
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 Laura Musseau  
 Pamela Boudreau  
 Ine Ogagan  
 James Soares  
 Jane Gonsalves  
 Janine da Silva  
 Dr. Juli Parker  
 Kayla Marshall  
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 Grimshaw-Gudewicz  
 Kaplan Foundation  
 Demoulas Foundation

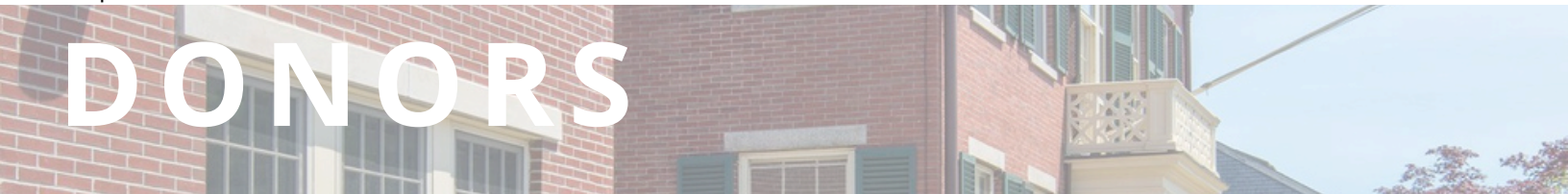
City of New Bedford Community Development Block Grant  
 Yawkey Foundation  
 MA Afterschool and Out of School Time Grant  
 United Way Greater New Bedford  
 Southcoast Health  
 Huidekoper Fund  
 NB Cultural Council

**Girls Exclusive**

**donors**  
 Bernadette Souza  
 Carolyn Partan  
 Edward Rogers  
 Jane Gonsalves  
 Marion Kimball  
 Margaret Anderson  
 Robert Horne  
 Vincent Mor  
**grantors/foundations**  
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 Fall River Women's Union  
 United Way of Greater Fall River  
 United Way of Greater New Bedford  
 Demoulas Foundation  
 City of New Bedford Community Development Block Grant  
 CHT Foundation  
 City of New Bedford Invest in Kids Grant  
 Fall River Womens Union  
 Cape Cod Foundation: Helides  
 STEM Education Fund

**Mayor's Youth Council**

**grantors/foundation**  
 HRIA  
 City of New Bedford Invest in Kids Grant



**DONORS**

# PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



YWCA Southeastern MA serves over 4,000 individuals a year and provides programs and direct services within four concentrations: Adult Services, Health and Wellness, Residential Services, and Youth Services.

## Adult Services:

Established in 1992, the **Widowed Persons Program** sponsors the area's only series of support groups for persons who are newly widowed. Needs are met through social activities and personal phone support. Services are available to men and women of all ages.

“ ———  
**No words can express how grateful I am that you so kindly and caringly are there to walk this path and guide so gently through the most painful torturous moments of my life. For being a light when there is no light. My sincere heartfelt love.** ——— ”

**Economic Empowerment** offers financial and digital literacy workshops for residents, veterans, adults, and children and their families.

The **Clothesline Project** demonstrates the emotions generated by acts of violence against women and children. The project is presented at host sites during **Week Without Violence**, hosted by YWCAs across the country in October. T-shirts are provided by those willing to express their feelings and emotions, and the shirts are hung for onlookers to reflect upon them.





**YWCA Health and Wellness** provides outreach, education, translation, support and transportation to women and families in order to improve the health of the community.

**Residential Services** provides single room occupancy housing for women 18 and older. The program offers safe, secure, and supportive living environments for low-income women.

*I've made forever friends. This program has changed my life and I am so grateful!*

*Current Resident*



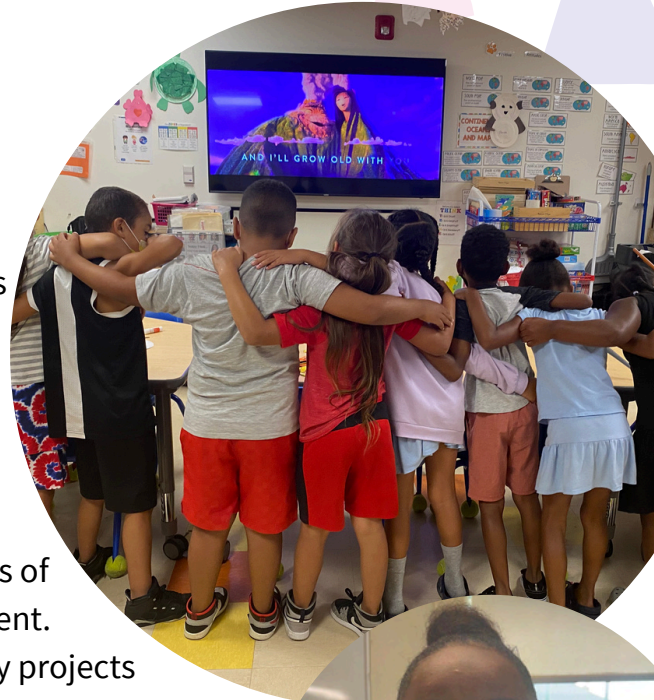
# YOUTH SERVICES

**YWKids School Age Program** serves families in need of quality care for their children. YWKids staff strive to acknowledge, respect and design ways to accommodate the uniqueness of each child so that all may reach their fullest potential.

**Girls Exclusive** is an afterschool & summer program for girls ages 10-14 in Greater New Bedford and Fall River. The goal of this program is to empower girls by cultivating academic and social/emotional learning skills such as teamwork, empathy, responsibility, initiative and problem solving.

**Mayor's Youth Council (MYC)** was created to be the eyes and ears of city youth in an advisory capacity to the mayor and city government. The council assists city officials in the development of community projects from a youth's perspective.

**Youth/Police Dialogues** is a nationally recognized program developed by YW Boston, to provide a safe, structured way for young people and police officers to come together, speak openly and build trust and community.



I wished the YWCA had sleepovers That's how much I like being at the YWCA.

# thank you



**eliminating racism  
empowering women**

**ywca**

**southeastern massachusetts**

---

**20 South Sixth Street, New Bedford, MA 02740**

**P: (508) 999-3255 F: (508) 999-2802**

**info@ywcasema.org www.ywcasema.org**

