

# eliminating racism empowering women

ywca

hartford region

**Contact:**

**Kristy Lee Downer**

**YWCA Hartford Region**

**135 Broad Street**

**Hartford, CT 06105**

[kristyleed@ywcahartford.org](mailto:kristyleed@ywcahartford.org)

**P: (860) 525-1163, Ext. 292**

**For Immediate Release**

**DATE: 11-16-11**

## **YWCA DESIGNATES NOVEMBER AS “WOMEN’S WORK MONTH”**

First annual campaign highlights job readiness and economic empowerment for all women

This November, [YWCA Hartford Region](#)—the voice for every woman - is joining with other YWs to take action on job readiness and economic empowerment for women by launching the first annual *Women’s Work Month*.

*Women’s Work Month*, the first in a new YWCA “Take Action” series that focuses on critical issues affecting women across America, is a month-long campaign to raise awareness and garner support so the YW can continue to provide women with the critical job skills, career training and mentorship they need to achieve financial self-sufficiency, economic empowerment and success in the workforce.

“Statistics about working women are disturbing. Women make only 77 cents for every one dollar that men earn for doing the same or comparable jobs,” said Deborah Ullman, CEO YWCA Hartford Region. “The averages are even lower for African American and Hispanic women,” said Ullman.

Ullman added that many female dominated jobs like child care, retail, maids, and secretarial related jobs often don’t pay a living wage or provide benefits. And only one in seven women work in male-dominated fields where pay is the highest.

YWCA Hartford Region recently held their 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary *Money Conference for Women*, an annual free conference designed to address the unique financial challenges women face in their work and personal lives. In addition, YWCA Hartford Region participates in VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), a collaborative effort with the Hartford Asset Building Collaborative that offers free tax help and quick access to refunds to those with low-to-moderate incomes.

“As part of *Women’s Work Month* we are asking everyone in our community to join with YWCA to take action and get women on the path to job readiness and economic empowerment,” said Ullman. “YWCA is where women turn and now we at YWCA are turning to women, and men, in the Hartford region to support our important work. A donation of \$10 can help a women get ready for work.”

# eliminating racism empowering women

**ywca**

hartford region

For more information about how to give your time, talent, tenacity and financial support to help YWCA's *Women's Work Month* campaign, please contact RozeLyn Beck at [Rozelynb@ywcahartford.org](mailto:Rozelynb@ywcahartford.org) or visit [www.ywcahartford.org](http://www.ywcahartford.org) and click "Donate Now."

Established in 1867, YWCA Hartford Region is the third oldest affiliate of YWCA, a women's membership movement dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. YWCA Hartford Region provides programs and services in the greater Hartford area including child care, supportive housing, teen leadership development, racial justice awareness, financial literacy and economic empowerment. For more information, visit [www.ywcahartford.org](http://www.ywcahartford.org) and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

###