Creating Opportunities
YWCA Hartford Region is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.
DEAR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS,

We set ambitious goals for 2014 and as we look back, we are happy to report that we did what we expected and more. We have continued to provide exceptional programs that enhance the lives of women and children in our community while maintaining a strong balance sheet and continuing to invest in our future. In these pages you will see more about how we changed the lives of 2,000 individuals in greater Hartford.

2014 marked the 40th anniversary of our building at 135 Broad Street. Coincidentally, we paid off our mortgage and decided to celebrate both of these major milestones by renovating our community room, known as the Soromundi Room. We invested in the latest technology, including audio/visual equipment, as well as new furniture. The Soromundi Room is now a comfortable place to host the variety of events sponsored by YWCA and other partnering organizations. We also completed the sale of Camp Aya Po to the Town of Somers, which allowed us to invest $800,000 in our future and make an even greater impact in the community. We are also pleased to note that the Town of Somers will preserve the land as open space and a recreational area for town residents.

YWCA has a long legacy of working with children in Manchester. In September, we moved back into the town of Manchester with the opening of the YW Nike Tykes Early Learning and Childcare Center. We were pleased to be in a position to capitalize on the opportunity to build on this long-standing community program and look forward to educating another generation of children in the Manchester area.

In addition to our direct program services, our mission of eliminating racism and empowering women continues to be at the heart of our work within our programs, as well as in our support of our workforce and community partners. Throughout 2014, YWCA employees participated in racial justice training and other professional development activities, which has translated into numerous multi-cultural events and anti-violence activities in our childcare programs. We once again collaborated with many community partners including: our corporate partners, other non-profit organizations, and state and local government agencies, to advocate for and provide issue education. In particular, our flagship annual racial justice event, Stand Against Racism, garnered the support of 60 organizations and hundreds of participants.

Today more than ever, we are committed to telling our story through regular communications with our members and the wider community, with a particular focus on strong social media and a physical presence at Hartford region events. These are challenging times as issues of race, violence against women, and increasing economic disparity continue to make our work a necessity. It is imperative that the voice of justice and equity be loud, strong, and unwavering. YWCA is proud to be that voice.

2015 will prove to be another productive year. We appreciate the support of our members, donors, funders, community partners, and most of all, the hardworking and ever committed women and their families whom we are honored to serve; they are the fabric of our community.

Deborah G. Ullman
Chief Executive Officer

Britt-Marie Cole-Johnson
Board Chair
My mom just got home and I was angry. My dad still isn’t home; I don’t know where he is. I had to stay with a bunch of strangers. I was so scared.

Taylor* came to our Early Learning and Childcare Center having already experienced a lot of pain and trauma in just three short years. Her mom had just returned home from prison and was struggling to return to the role of “Mom.” While mom was in prison, Taylor was living with a few different families. There never seemed to be a perfect fit. Taylor’s unstable living situation caused her to develop attachment disorder, and she was soon displaying the classic symptoms of withdrawal, fear, sadness and irritability.

YWCA staff began engaging with Taylor’s mom to prevent the situation from getting worse. Taylor’s mom made the heartbreaking confession that she didn’t feel like Taylor loved her. Not only was Taylor struggling in school, but clearly this was a mother and child who couldn’t connect on any level. The teachers wanted Taylor to be successful and they knew any plan needed to include mom, so Taylor could see that her mom cared about her. YWCA staff and Taylor’s mom developed a plan together to encourage and motivate Taylor that both the staff could use at school and Taylor’s mom could use at home.

The transformation took over a year. Meeting regularly, staff members and Taylor’s mother met to talk about Taylor’s progress. While there were small victories along the way like better behavior in the classroom, there were also many setbacks. Taylor continued to show no interest in playing with the other children and she was falling behind in reading and math.

It wasn’t until one day when Taylor brought a book to her teacher to read that the teachers saw any interest in reading. After giving the book to the teacher Taylor quickly settled on her lap for story time. Taylor became so engaged in the book, story time quickly became a daily ritual.

The early learning centers work to engage all parents with their children’s learning. The teachers started an interactive literacy activity that invited parents to come into the classroom to read stories to all the children. Different parents would read to the classroom and engage them in interactive activities such as games that were related to the story. When it was Taylor’s mom’s turn, she arrived with a tray of cookies and the book, If You Give a Mouse a Cookie. Upon seeing Mom, Taylor escorted her into the classroom proudly declaring, “This is my mommy!” After she read the story to the class, Taylor’s mom told the teachers, “I had no idea how to be with my child. Thank you for bringing my baby back to me.”

Taylor continued to show major signs of improvement by interacting with the other children and engaging in activities. Taylor’s mom became a fixture at the center; she often volunteered in the classroom and joined the parent advisory council. She even helped organize Taylor’s preschool graduation ceremony where she spoke about her experience. Taylor left our Early Learning Center ready for kindergarten. We have no doubt Taylor will continue to grow and thrive.

*T name has been changed.
YWCA PROGRAMS AND SERVICES  | Creating Opportunities Today

**CHILDCARE**

Our Early Learning Centers offer high-quality childcare for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. YWCA is helping children prepare for success in kindergarten and beyond, while focusing on the values of diversity and respect for others. Programs are located in East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester and West Hartford.

YW Kidslink is a before- and after-school childcare program for students in kindergarten through 5th grade that offers mission-based creative activities to educate and inspire children. YW Kidslink is located in Bolton, Rocky Hill and West Hartford.

“All of the people who work there [YW Kidslink] truly care about the kids, in return, my children feel safe, comfortable and look forward to going.” – A YW Kidslink Parent

**EMERGENCY SHELTER / SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

Soromundi Commons is an innovative supportive housing facility managed in collaboration with Chrysalis Center, Inc. and Konover Residential Corporation. It provides emergency shelter for women, and transitional housing and permanent, affordable apartments for men and women as they move towards self-sufficiency. Soromundi Commons provides a safe place to live and the start of a new life for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless.

“It was an unbelievable journey. I went through 8 years [of being homeless] of trials, struggles, chaos and through it all I gained so much from staying at the YWCA for those 90 days. You guys are a blessing.” – Denise, a former shelter resident who recently moved into her own apartment.

**STAND AGAINST RACISM**

Stand Against Racism raises awareness about the existence of racism in our communities. The program combats the spread of hate, celebrates the richness of diversity and proclaims that racism will not be tolerated. YWCA invites organizations of all types to take a Stand Against Racism.

**MONEY CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN**

The Money Conference for Women is an annual conference, now in its 14th year, focusing on money management, investment and retirement strategies for women of all ages, economic backgrounds and levels of financial knowledge. The conference prepares women to handle today’s economic challenges and inspires women to take charge of their finances.

“Since the conference, I have been able to budget my finances the correct way.” – A Money Conference for Women Participant.

**VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)**

VITA offers free tax preparation to families. IRS-certified community volunteers prepare and electronically file tax returns and ensure that individuals and families receive the credits to which they are entitled, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit.

**YOUNG WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP CORPS (YWLC)**

YWLC builds personal leadership, teaches decision making skills, establishes healthy behaviors, promotes college education and develops career readiness in teen girls in middle school and high school.

“I’ve learned to know my self worth, practice self control and be confident by being a part of this program. I’ve bettered myself by maturing, taking time to motivate myself and have ambition to do things that interest me.” – A YWLC Participant who overcame a lot of adversity throughout the year. She was honored as student of the month.

**YW CAREER WOMEN (YWCW)**

YWCW helps women build a strong foundation for their families and earn college degrees in fields that will lead to a career with a family-sustaining wage. YWCW supports women who are juggling family, school and a job. In its first year YWCW assisted women who were pursuing degrees in the healthcare field at Capital Community College.
Over 500 children had a safe place to learn and play before and after school at YW Kidslink.

130 young women have more self-confidence because of YWLC.

375 women are better prepared to take control of their finances.

150 individuals.

Provided quality childcare for 291 children.

Camryn Manheim inspired 1,450 guests at the 19th Annual In the Company of Women luncheon.

263 tax returns were prepared for free.

15 women are getting the support necessary to balance school, work and family with YW Career Women.

60 organizations took a Stand Against Racism.

Y.W. CAUSES BY THE NUMBERS | Creating Opportunities Everyday

Areas Served
Bolton
Bloomfield
East Hartford
Hartford
Manchester
Rocky Hill
West Hartford
Windsor

Money Conference
375
Women
Are better prepared to take control of their finances.

Soromundi
Emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing was provided for
150 individuals.

General
Who do we serve?
African American 36%
Asian 5%
Caucasian 34%
Hispanic 15%
Mixed 6%
Native 1%
Other 3%

Founded in 1867
## 2014 REVENUE

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
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<td>Program fees</td>
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<td>Governmental grants</td>
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<td>Non-governmental grants</td>
<td>425,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>104,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; special events</td>
<td>515,966</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment contribution</td>
<td>628,655</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>3,143</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,478,100</strong></td>
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## 2014 EXPENSES

<table>
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<td>Personnel expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees &amp; contract services</td>
<td>633,975</td>
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<td>Supplies</td>
<td>303,173</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>201,747</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,414,532</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**47%**  **12%**  **47%**

**2%**  **9%**  **8%**

**11%**  **23%**  **47%**

**5%**  **11%**  **12%**

**67%**  **4%**  **5%**

FINANCIAL REPORT  | Creating Opportunities With a Strong Foundation
Looking Forward | Creating Opportunities for the Future

YWCA is committed to addressing the needs of our community right now and for many years to come. Over the last 18 months the board and staff have been reviewing our strategic plan, and later this year, we will begin to implement enhancements to our current programs while adding additional programs and services that will help assure increased economic sustainability for families in our community. Our financial position is strong and we have the resources and vision to make this happen. For 148 years YWCA has been a leader in providing programs and services for women and families in the Hartford region. We look forward to celebrating 150 years with increased impact.

YWCA Welcomes New Chief Program Officer

Eliminating racism and empowering women through strong programs and services that serve the women and families in our community is our number one priority. With the addition of Jamal Jimerson, our recently hired Chief Program Officer to our senior team, we now have the leadership to deepen our impact. Jamal, who has extensive experience working with families and youth in Hartford and other urban areas in Connecticut, will help us build on our long history of being a leader in the fight for civil and human rights in this county. His goal is to help YWCA stand out in the Hartford community and face the ongoing challenges of eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting gender equity. He is excited about leveraging relationships with community organizations across Hartford to help YWCA fulfill its mission. Jamal will be responsible for leading a program vision that builds on the organization’s strengths, increases its capacity to address the emerging needs of women and families in greater Hartford and supports YWCA’s mission.

YWCA is on a Mission

YWCA Hartford Region is proud to be a member of a strong national association that is committed to eliminating racism and empowering women. YWCA USA’s national membership of 220 local associations extends from coast to coast serving over 2 million women and families each year. YWCA is ready to leverage our collective power and resources to maximize our impact both locally and nationally. YWCA USA has released a new mission impact framework that captures how we share commitments and how each association serves the needs of its local community. We will continue to serve women and girls with a focus on:

- Racial justice and civil rights
- Empowerment and economic advancement for women and girls
- Health and safety for women and girls.

Thinking about the programs and services under this framework enables us to measure and speak to the collective impact of YWCA – making our voice more powerful. YWCA is courageous, passionate, committed, motivated and always moving forward. YWCA is on a mission, please join us.
Persimmon Circle is YWCA's leadership giving circle. Persimmon Circle recognizes those individuals who make a significant investment in YWCA, providing $2,500 or more annually. This investment allows YWCA to provide programs that change lives for women and their families. We are pleased to provide special recognition for these donors at the following levels:

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$5,000 +
- Kathy & Martin Gavin
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Thank you for your generosity. Should you find any errors in the list, we apologize and encourage you to contact WIC's Development Office at (860) 525-1163 ext. 118.
eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
hartford region

YW Kidslink Locations
Bolton School and
Bolton Nursery School
104 Notch Road
Bolton, CT 06043

Bugbee School
1943 Asylum Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117

Duffy School
95 Westminster Drive
West Hartford, CT 06107

Bolton School
135 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 06105

(860) 525-1163

Soromundi Commons
135 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 06105

Stevens School
322 Orchard Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Bugbee School
1943 Asylum Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117

Duffy School
95 Westminster Drive
West Hartford, CT 06107

Elmwood
1106 New Britain Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06110

The Growing Tree
195-205 Garden Street
Hartford, CT 06105

Elmwood
1106 New Britain Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06110

The Growing Tree
195-205 Garden Street
Hartford, CT 06105

YWCA Nike Tykes
255 Garden Grove Road
Manchester, CT 06040

Early Learning and
Childcare Centers
East Hartford
9 Signor Street
East Hartford, CT 06108

Bugbee School
1943 Asylum Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06117

Elmwood
1106 New Britain Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06110

The Growing Tree
195-205 Garden Street
Hartford, CT 06105

ywca

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Chief Executive Officer

RozeLyn Beck
Director of Development and Marketing

Donna Haghighat
Chief Engagement and Advocacy Officer

Jamal Jimerson
Chief Program Officer

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