YWCA Hartford Region is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.
As we begin to prepare for our 150th Anniversary, which occurs in just three short years, we have been spending a lot of time looking at our herstory and reflecting on our future. At our core, we are a membership organization; it was a committed group of women, 150 years ago, who decided that women in Hartford needed a voice and an advocate.

In 1867, these women met at a church on Pearl Street in Hartford after they learned that 250 young women were "alone and unprotected, without homes, seeking to enter the precarious path of economic independence beset by the temptations and pitfalls of urban life." Since then, fearless women leaders have continued to band together to make our community a better place for women and their families. We might describe it a bit differently in 2014, but the vision of YWCA - women supporting women to achieve a better life - is much the same. Economic security and a path out of poverty is as much a priority today as at any point in our herstory.

Our founders in 1867, and the women who have followed them for almost 150 years, had a vision for the future. Over the years, YWCA's programs and services have grown and evolved to meet the needs of the women and families in the community, just as we continue to do today. We have stood the test of time. In 2013, YWCA provided support to women and their families that helped teen girls prepare for college, provided warm beds for homeless women, prepared Hartford area preschoolers for kindergarten and so much more.

YWCA has provided vital programs and services, and has been at the forefront of human rights and justice: women's right to vote, reproductive justice and civil rights. Today, women's health and basic civil rights are still at risk, and YWCA is still a strong voice for change.

We invite you to stand with us as we plan for a future that reflects the richness of our heritage and the vision of peace, justice, freedom and dignity. We are strong and ready for that future. Despite a challenging economic climate, we ended the year with a balanced budget, a testament to strong fiscal management and the confident support of many individuals and organizations. In 2014, we will continue our journey as we embark on a strategy to increase our impact in the community. We are forging ahead with courage to help build a world that values the gifts of each individual and creates opportunities, one woman at a time.

Deborah G. Ullman
Chief Executive Officer

Stacy Smith Walsh
Board Chair
maya’s story

Supporting her family was Maya’s* number one goal. With only a high school education, Maya worked low-paying jobs to make ends meet. Finally, she realized she needed a better job to financially support her family and she went back to school. Today, YWCA is partnering with Maya to help her reach her goal.

Maya had graduated from high school and soon found herself married with two children. Over the course of their marriage Maya’s husband became increasingly more controlling, and he soon became emotionally and verbally abusive. Maya reached her breaking point when she realized he wouldn’t change. Taking her two small children, Maya left.

Maya aspired to become a nurse. She knew that becoming a nurse would be a way for her to gain financial security for her family. Maya began her college career at Capital Community College (CCC), taking all the prerequisite courses necessary for the nursing program.

Completing the prerequisite courses took many years and was a long struggle for both Maya and her family. As a single mother, Maya juggled the responsibilities of school, work and family, but she persevered, even when she was not accepted into the CCC Nursing Program the first time she applied. After applying a year later, Maya was finally accepted!

As a nursing student, the challenges Maya faced were even more daunting and she knew she needed help. Maya joined YWCA’s YW Career Women (YWCW) program in her second year in the Nursing Program, and she met Bonnie, the YWCW Program Manager. Bonnie became her cheerleader, her coach and her sounding board. Maya found a partner who could provide guidance and support.

Together they developed a plan to help Maya achieve her goals. They worked together to improve Maya’s time management skills, strengthen her study habits, research additional financial aid and scholarship options, and develop a more realistic budget to meet her family’s needs and her additional college expenses. Bonnie also connected Maya to a resource for emergency food assistance and to CCC’s Academic Success Center for free tutoring. With Bonnie’s support, Maya’s challenges no longer seemed so overwhelming.

Through her personal strength and determination and with assistance from YWCW, Maya earned her Associates Degree in Nursing in May 2014. Maya has a bright future ahead of her now as she looks forward to becoming a registered nurse and obtaining a well-paying job. Maya is well on the way to creating a better life and strong economic future for herself and her children.

*Name has been changed.
programs and services

YWCA’s mission in action … YWCA Hartford Region is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

Early Learning Centers

YW Kidslink

Young Women’s Leadership Corps

Teens as Successful Parents

YW Career Women

Soromundi Commons

Money Conference for Women

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Stand Against Racism

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 Hartford, East 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.

Young Women’s Leadership Corps (YWLC) builds personal leadership, teaches decision making skills, establishes healthy behaviors, promotes college education and develops career readiness in young women in middle school and high school. YWLC programs are located in schools in the greater Hartford area.

Teens as Successful Parents (TSP) helps teen mothers graduate from high school and prepare for college and a career. TSP also supports the teen’s child by helping the parent track developmental progress during in-home visits and by strengthening their parenting skills. The TSP program partners with schools in East Hartford and Manchester.

YW Career Women (YWCW) helps women build a strong foundation for their families and earn college degrees in fields that will lead to a career with a meaningful wage. YWCW supports women who are juggling to balance family, education and a job. YWCW works with women earning degrees in the healthcare field at Capital Community College.

Soromundi Commons (Emergency Shelter/Supportive Housing) 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.

The *Money Conference for Women* is an annual conference, now in its 13th 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.

*Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)* offers free tax preparation to help families pay down debt and work toward saving for the future. IRS certified community volunteers prepare and electronically file tax returns and ensure that individuals and families receive their proper credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and Child Tax Credit.

*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. It invites organizations of all types to take a *Stand Against Racism*. 

2013 *In the Company of Women* luncheon keynote speaker Laura Ling
Laura Ling reminded 1,300 WOMEN, “no matter how difficult things get, we just have to hold on to hope … it will lead to better days,” at the 18th annual In the Company of Women luncheon.

In its first year, **YW Career Women** assisted 15 WOMEN who were pursuing degrees in the healthcare field at Capital Community College.

Early Learning Centers provided childcare while preparing preschoolers for kindergarten for over 300 LOW-TO MIDDLE-INCOME FAMILIES.

YW Kidslink, a before- and after-school program that taps into children’s creativity while fostering healthy physical, social, mental and emotional development, served 450 CHILDREN.

More than 300 WOMEN attended the 12th annual Money Conference for Women, which gave women the training and tools to handle today’s financial challenges.

60 ORGANIZATIONS joined YWCA Hartford Region in taking a Stand Against Racism.

**Teens as Successful Parents** provided one-on-one counseling, parenting workshops and peer support groups for 28 TEEN PARENTS.

Soromundi Commons provided supportive housing and emergency shelter for 150 INDIVIDUALS.

160 YOUNG WOMEN developed personal leadership skills, prepared for college and careers, and learned new financial management skills in the Young Women’s Leadership Corps.

200 TAX RETURNS were prepared for free for Connecticut residents using the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

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2013 Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program fees</td>
<td>$2,582,982</td>
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<tr>
<td>Governmental grants</td>
<td>$1,138,972</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-governmental grants</td>
<td>$382,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>$121,650</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; special events</td>
<td>$474,031</td>
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<tr>
<td>Endowment &amp; trust funds</td>
<td>$591,827</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>$14,501</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,306,763</strong></td>
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2013 Expenses

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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>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>$235,608</td>
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<tr>
<td>All other</td>
<td>$180,256</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expense</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,191,826</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Financial report
the future has a past

Forty, Fit & Fabulous

On November 7, 1974 the newly constructed YWCA building on the corner of Farmington & Broad Streets opened its doors to the women and families in the greater Hartford region. Forty years later, our commitment to support and help women in our community remains the same.

After forty years on the corner of Broad and Farmington, we are financially fit and poised to begin a fabulous future. We just paid off our mortgage, and we are ready to celebrate!

In honor of our 40th anniversary, we are renovating the Soromundi Room - a multi-purpose room in the building that is used for a variety of events including movie nights, program celebrations, city elections, community meetings and more! With upgraded furniture, AV equipment, a bigger stage and so much more, this room will continue to support the needs of both YWCA and the community! Forty years down and many more to go!

Expanding Early Learning Programs to Manchester

YWCA has a long history of providing high quality early learning and childcare to families in the greater Hartford region. With Connecticut children facing the largest achievement gap in the nation, we believe in the strong benefits of early education for children. The State of Connecticut has recently reaffirmed its commitment to providing early learning for children by increasing the number of school readiness slots available. YWCA's Elmwood Early Learning Center received additional slots, helping us increase the number of low-income families we can serve.

In September 2014 we will open a new center, YWCA Nike Tykes, in Manchester. YWCA has been operating programs in Manchester for over 60 years, and we continue to be committed to serving the families in Manchester.

Continued Commitment to Equity for All

Our mission is crucial to our work in the community, and our staff strives to live this mission every day. We are committed to training our staff on the importance of equity and how to foster an environment of justice and fairness. By educating our staff, they become our best advocates for equity by integrating what they learn into both their personal and professional lives. Living a life of equity can help to influence those around us and make for a stronger community.

All of our programs integrate anti-bias components, and many have justice and fairness lessons built into the curriculum. We are teaching even our smallest children to respect others and to appreciate the differences among each of us - no matter the economic status, race or any other unique quality. Every day, YWCA is living its mission.

Building for a strong future

YWCA is currently developing a business plan that will capitalize on our strengths and successes and provide a road map for a strong future. For over 147 years, YWCA has been a leader in providing programs and services for women and families in the Hartford region.

Our future will continue our commitment to the long-term transformation of the lives of women and children. We are committed to being a strong advocate and voice for the people we serve for many more years to come.
thanks to your support in 2013, we continue to strengthen our community

Persimmon Circle is YWCA’s leadership giving circle. Persimmon Circle recognizes those individuals who make a significant investment in YWCA Hartford Region of $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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Hartford Area Habitat for Humanity Inc.
Hartford Courant/FOX CT
The Hartford
Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective
Hartford Hospital
Hartford Public Schools
The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Co.
Hoffman Auto Group
Jackson Lewis LLP
Koover Residential Corporation
Landmark Partners
Larson for Congress
Law Office of Corey J. Brinlon LLC
Lee’s Creative Catering
Lisa Davenport Designs, LLC
Luby Construction
Marketing Solutions Unlimited, LLC
MassMutual Financial Group
Max Downtown
Mayo Crowe LLC
MetroHartford Alliance
Millennium Real Estate Services, LLC
Monarch Jewelers
Moody Consulting Firm
New England Financial Group, LLC
New England Mechanical Services, Inc.
New England Mutual LLC
North Star Network Group, Inc.
October Kitchen
The Phoenix Companies, Inc.
Pinnacle Maintenance, LLC
Program Builders
Prudential Retirement
Pullman & Comley LLC
Reid & Riege, P.C.
Right Management Consultants
Robinson & Cole LLP
Royal Bath & Spa
Royal Neighbors of America & The Royal Nuisance Foundation
Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Center
Santander
Sheppard & Goodwin LLP
Solomon & Associates Event Management
Soroptimist International Northeastern Region
The Spirited Hand
St. Justin’s Church Corp
Skananadey Corporation
Sullivan & LeShane, Inc.
Talus Partners, LLC
TDB Bank
TIAA-CREF
The Town and Country Club
The Travelers Companies, Inc
United Technologies Corporation
United Way of Central and Northeast CT
United Way of Pioneer Valley, Inc.
University of Saint Joseph
Upstate, Kelly & Sanchez, P.C.
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Virtus Investment Partners, Inc.
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YMCA of Greater Hartford
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City of Hartford Office of Central Grants Administration
CT Department of Housing
CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
CT Department of Public Health
CT Department of Social Services
CT Office of Higher Education
East Hartford School Readiness Council
Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program/FEMA
City of Hartford Department of Families, Youth, Children and Recreation
Town of Manchester
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Office on Women’s Health
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
West Hartford Public Schools

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