



strong

alone

fearless

together



**eliminating racism
empowering women**

ywca

west central michigan

**annual report
2005-2006**

Realizing a world where women and children are safe from violence.

Dear Friends,

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

west central michigan

It has been an invigorating and exciting year. One characterized by the YWCA's recognized commitment to solid, collaborative planning. One defined by our vision of a community where women and children are safe from violence.

With your investment and support, the majority of the YWCA's time and effort have been keenly focused on establishing programs that are not only often unique among our peers, but have the potential to fundamentally transform the way the issues of violence against women and children are viewed locally. Most notable among these...

- Development of a pilot program for domestic violence victims that builds on the YWCA Nurse Examiner Program's medical-forensic expertise related to sexual assault cases.
- Creation of the YWCA's Safe Connections Program which expands on our array of services for families by providing a place for secure, supervised parental visitation and exchange for families where violence has been documented or alleged.
- Establishment of our community's first permanent housing program designed specifically to address the unique concerns of domestic violence victims.

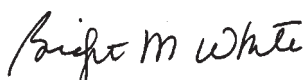
Yet while we continue to look to the future, we are equally aware of today's needs. The YWCA knows firsthand the struggles women – particularly victims of violence – face. Such struggles are compounded by race. In order to truly empower all women, such disparities must be addressed. With the adoption of the national logo, the YWCA's brand explicitly reflects this long-held belief.

The geographic identification of our new logo also reflects our true service area. Our affiliation with the national Girls Incorporated® program helps us reach girls throughout the broader West Central Michigan area. While the affiliation is relatively new, the YWCA's other services have long served the counties surrounding Grand Rapids.

To achieve all this, the YWCA continues to effectively balance both mission and margin. Our financial position is positive, and we see our circle of private support widening in order to meet the ever-growing needs of our community.

As the following pages attest, the YWCA continues to be a critical resource for thousands of women, children and families. Your role in this is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,



Bridget White, Chairperson
Board of Directors



Caroline "Carla" Blinkhorn,
President/CEO

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The YWCA has been a place of hope, healing and renewal since 1900. During that time, the YWCA has renewed itself in response to the changing needs of women. Today, our services work in concert to address the issues of violence against women and children which undermine individuals, families, and our community.

With comprehensive services, participation in community-based solutions and ongoing education, our vision is a community that demonstrates a commitment to creating a nurturing, violence-free environment for women and children.

For families experiencing the trauma of incest and non-familial molestation, there are the **YWCA Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Services**. Components of our treatment program include individual, family, marital and group counseling, as well as educational and support groups.

The YWCA's Domestic Violence Services have been an integral part of our programming since 1977. We are one of Michigan's leaders in responding to the issue of domestic violence. Our services have evolved to include crisis intervention, a domestic violence shelter, specialized counseling for victims and assailants and a long-term transitional housing component designed to equip and educate women so they can better support themselves independently and live free from violence after they transition out of the shelter.

Girls Incorporated® at the YWCA provides girls, 9-18 years old, with education in math, science, sports, health, wellness and sexuality, technology, and much more, after school and during the summer. Using the nationally regarded *Girls Incorporated®* curriculum, the YWCA helps girls build their self-esteem and confidence, set boundaries, and develop healthy relationships with adults. Ultimately, this reduces their vulnerability to violence.

Through the **YWCA's Sexual Assault Services** we assist over 1200 individuals each year as they work to rebuild their lives. Noted as one of the most comprehensive programs in Michigan, the YWCA's Sexual Assault Services include critical crisis intervention, individual and group therapy and short-term respite services for victims unable to return home. The YWCA's Nurse Examiner Program is also our community's resource for medical-forensic sexual assault examinations for patients 13 years and older.

child sexual abuse treatment services

A World Health Organization study found that 25% of females and 8% of males will experience a sexual assault during their childhoods. The trauma inflicted by such violence shatters the confidence and sense of safety that children need to grow into healthy adults.

Compared to their peers, child victims experience higher incidents of childhood depression, substance abuse, school difficulties, teenage prostitution, contracted STDs and eating disorders. Victims of childhood sexual abuse are more vulnerable to additional sexual assault and domestic violence and struggles with parenting later in life.



At the YWCA these young victims and their families are provided the tools that help them cope with their experiences and begin moving forward.

In 2005–06, over 80% of the children participating in our services showed an increase in their ability to do so.

The impact of your gifts...

Lives improved.

244 families

829 individuals

61% under the age of 18

40% boys

60% girls

The impact of your gifts...

Lives improved.

1150 individuals through our crisis hotline (advocacy, safety planning, support, referrals)

297 families through emergency shelter or transitional housing

550 individuals through therapy and counseling

68 individuals through support groups

domestic violence services

“Empowerment” is the philosophical underpinning for the YWCA’s emergency shelter, transitional housing, and counseling services. All victims are offered lodging - safe from the threat of violence - in addition to access to services that assist them in achieving independence, greater well-being and the skills that will provide options. Options beyond returning to the assailant or remaining homeless. Through crisis and counseling services, we address the emotional and psychological trauma that domestic violence wreaks on its victims. The goal is to help victims gain the internal strength and confidence to move forward.

Locally in 2005, 3658 victims of domestic violence were identified by law enforcement in Kent County. During this same period, over 80% of those who turned to us through our domestic violence services reported the ability to maintain a safer lifestyle for six months after leaving the YWCA.

**girls incorporated®
at the ywca west central michigan**

The impact of your gifts...

Lives improved.

598 girls

94% of whom demonstrated an increase in skills (commitment to learning, positive values, and positive boundaries) that are necessary to their future success.

92% of whom began to identify themselves as “of value” rather than “at risk” by developing a plan to increase their personal safety.

The stakes are high. In 2005, Kent County reported approximately 1400 infants born to mothers who were between 15 and 19 years old. Violence – perpetrated by girls, against girls – is increasing. National research suggests that 1 in 5 high-school girls are physically or sexually abused by a dating partner. For girls, witnessing or experiencing violence is associated with multiple problems including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, antisocial behavior, and juvenile delinquency.

The YWCA is working to counter this. We are succeeding.

Although our programming did not change, the scope of Girls Inc. increased dramatically. With a growing interest, particularly in the Preventing Adolescent Pregnancy curriculum, 23% more girls were served than projected.

Our first day-long Teen Summit hosted in the Fall of 2005 was attended by over 90 girls with the encouragement of administrators at Central High School.

With a formal affiliation established with Girls Incorporated® that covers the entire west side of Michigan’s lower peninsula, the YWCA is prepared to extend our programming to girls throughout the region.



sexual assault services

Over 1000 sex offenses occurred in Kent County in 2005. While national trends indicate a decrease in the reports of sexual assault in the last decade, the number of women and men seeking services at the YWCA is not decreasing.

Contributing largely to this is a strong, collaborative community response for cases involving sexual assault. The YWCA’s active involvement, its positive reputation, and its unique position as our community’s only sexual assault service provider further strengthens this response for victims.

As proof, those who turned to the YWCA in 2005-06 showed important progress in their efforts to heal. Ninety-five percent of patients reached for follow-up by phone reported feeling supported as a result of their experiences receiving medical-forensic examinations at the YWCA Nurse Examiner Program. Over 80% of the victims receiving counseling from us reported an increase in specific skills that allowed them to better cope with the emotional trauma following their assaults.

*The impact of you
gifts... Lives improved.*

1254 individuals

**300 received medical
forensic examinations**

**72 participated in support
groups**

97 received therapy services

**785 received counseling or
were helped via our 24-hour
crisis line**

fiscal year 2005-06

support and revenue

Contributions and Nongovernment Grants	\$ 281,341.00
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 98,648.00
Special Events (net)	\$ 200,183.00
Government Grants	\$ 1,755,152.00
United Way	\$ 392,457.00
Program Fees (net)	\$ 235,154.00
Membership Dues	\$ 1,000.00
Income from Outside Trusts	\$ 17,013.00
Investment Income	\$ 33,210.00
* Change in Value of Beneficial Interests in Outside Trusts	\$ 28,982.00
* Gain on Disposal of Property and Equipment	\$ 6,064.00
* Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments	\$ <u>58,377.00</u>
	\$ 3,107,581.00

expenses

Salaries and Contract Staff	\$ 1,581,303.00
Payroll Taxes	\$ 154,681.00
Employee Benefits	\$ 169,053.00
Professional Services	\$ 205,610.00
Food and Household Supplies	\$ 20,835.00
Operating Supplies and Expenses	\$ 98,166.00
Telephone	\$ 20,344.00
Postage	\$ 7,311.00
Utilities	\$ 145,249.00
Insurance	\$ 53,679.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 71,091.00
In-Kind Supplies and Services	\$ 98,648.00
Publicity and Promotion	\$ 9,265.00
Travel and Vehicle Expense	\$ 23,031.00
Conference, Training and Dues	\$ 14,251.00
Housing, Transportation and Other Client Assistance	\$ 198,796.00
Interest	\$ 4,653.00
National YWCA Support	\$ 18,905.00
*Depreciation	\$ <u>162,216.00</u>
	\$ 3,057,087.00

Excess of support and revenue over total expenses after management and general allocation is \$54,494.00.

** These items are not reflected in the operational budget and have negligible impact on annual operational income and expenses.*

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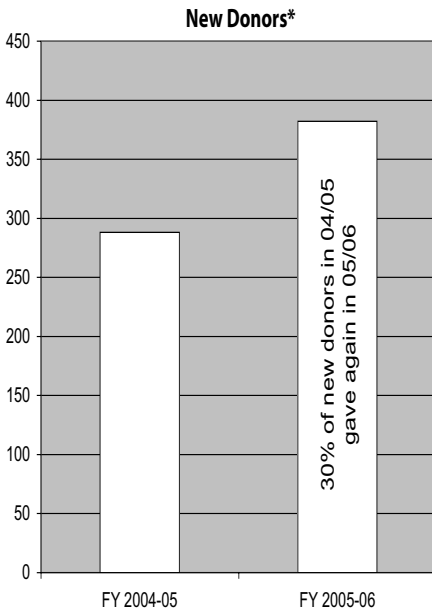
private community support

Private, community support continues to move the YWCA toward our vision - *realizing a world where women and children are safe from violence*. Such generosity transforms lives and fills gaps that would otherwise remain for the families we serve.

YWCA Circle of Women
with title sponsor



YWCA TRIBUTE!
Awards Celebration
with title sponsor



*Excludes special gifts made to the Judy Lloyd Women & Girls Leadership & Development Fund.

The industry standard for first-year renewal rates is between 20 and 30%.

Source: Campbell Research, Santa Maria CA.

YWCA Caroline W. Putnam Heritage Society



Caroline W. Putnam

In recognition of her steadfast commitment to the women and girls of our community, the Caroline W. Putnam Heritage Society honors the generosity of its namesake whose gift during the early part of the twentieth century became the cornerstone of today's YWCA. The Putnam Heritage Society recognizes those individuals with similar personal commitments who have graciously made estate gift arrangements to eventually benefit the YWCA and those it serves.

Charter Membership

Ethel Ackerson
Deb Bailey
Jackie Bess
Peggy Bishop
Carla Blinkhorn
Dr. M.P. Chelsky
Carrol Cook
Carol Crawford

Jean & Charlie Day
Betsy & Stan Dole
Beth Goebel
Ingrid A. Jensen
Theresa & Todd Mairn
Marilyn F. Martin
Maggie McCrystal
Stella Royce

Wendy Stock
Cindy Storer
Jaye VanLenten
Rev. Bunny Voss, Ph.D.
Sandy Weir
Bridget White &
Dick Willobee
Dolores & Doug White

ywca giving circles



Grace
Dyer Hunting



Helen
Claytor



Frances
Rutherford



Jean
McKee



Emma
Wanty



Loney Clinton
Gordon

The YWCA is pleased to recognize six women whose active participation in our organization helped further the YWCA's mission and strengthened our community. It is because of their exceptional contributions that they have been honored as the namesakes of the YWCA's giving circles which pay tribute to today's generous YWCA supporters.

As one of the YWCA's early leaders, **Grace Dyer Hunting** led the capital campaign in the early 1920s to build our current Sheldon Boulevard facility. She inspired her fundraising committee to raise \$567,000 in just seven days. Civil rights leader, **Helen Claytor** blazed the trail for later generations when she became our association's board president in the late 1940s and again in the mid-sixties when she assumed the position of board president of the YWCA of the USA. Educator, attorney, social activist and later candidate for the Fifth Congressional District, **Jean McKee** led the organization as its board president during the tumultuous times following the local race riots in 1967 and 1968. **Dr. Frances Rutherford**, the first female city physician in the U.S., directed her commitment to women's health toward the establishment of the YWCA's predecessor organization – the Women's Gymnasium and Noon Rest – in the late nineteenth century. Rutherford and others, including **Dr. Emma Wanty** whose extraordinary fundraising ability and active leadership in numerous offices, helped establish the YWCA and strengthened its position as an important community resource. **Loney Clinton Gordon**, a YWCA volunteer in the 1940s, played a leading role in the research that led to the discovery of the Whooping Cough vaccine. Like her YWCA peers, her contributions extend well beyond our organization and even our local community. Today we see further because it is on their shoulders that we stand.

community gifts and donors fiscal year 2005-06

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Fifth Third Bank
Fox 17 Charities Fund
Grand Rapids Community
Foundation
John Hunting
Huntington Bank
Nokomis Foundation
Shelley E. Padnos
Sebastian Foundation
TrimQuest
Vi-Chem Corporation
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Helen J. Claytor Circle (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

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Girls Incorporated
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Marjorie B. Goebel
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Deb Gould

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Herman Miller Foundation
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HIV/AIDS Services, Inc.
Ann B. Hoek
Holiday Fest
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Irwin Union Bank
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Helen J. Claytor Circle (con't)

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Wege Foundation
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Bridget White
Wolverine World Wide, Inc.
WOOD TV8
YMCA of Greater Grand Rapids

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(\$500 - \$999)**

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**Frances Rutherford &
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