YWCA IS ON A MISSION

The YWCA of Genesee County, Inc.
301 North Street, Batavia, NY
We are open 8:30–5:00 Monday–Friday
Contact Us
Phone: 585-343-5808
Fax: 585-343-0143
Hotline: 585-343-7513
www.ywcagenesee.org/
www.ywcausa.org/

eliminating racism
empowering women

JOIN US!

YWCA IS DEDICATED TO
ELIMINATING RACISM,
EMPowering women
AND PROMOTING PEACE,
JUSTICE, FREEDOM AND
DIGNITY FOR ALL.

301 North Street
Batavia, New York 14020
Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It was an exceptional honor for the YWCA of Genesee County to be awarded Agency of the Year by the United Way in June of 2019. From a year ago, when the future of the organization was in question, to today when I can share our progress with the community via this newsletter, it has been the journey of a million miles.

Each day throughout the past year and a half, I have been awe struck at the support given to the YWCA from this amazing community. From individual gestures of kindness to the Rotary Club of Batavia undertaking the renovation of our Safe House, it has been a truly extraordinary experience and one I will never forget! Without your support, the moms and children coming through our doors seeking safe refuge from domestic violence, may not have had a place to go. I see their faces everyday and know the importance of the work we do. We save lives – and you helped make that possible!

Our Domestic Violence Program is just one of the many ways we work to make a difference. This newsletter will highlight some of the other ways we are fulfilling our mission of Eliminating Racism, Empowering Women and Promoting Peace, Justice, Freedom and Dignity for all.

As we persist to rise above the challenges facing us, we are equally excited to plan and celebrate this beloved agency’s 110-year anniversary on September 19th of 2020! So please save the date and plan to join us!

In closing, my heartfelt appreciation goes out to each and everyone of you for the many ways you have bestowed blessings on this agency. You have all made a difference!

Thank you,

Millie

Board of Directors

Eve Hens - President
Liz Farmer - Vice President

Linda Rost - Treasurer
Lucille Disanto - Secretary

Ruth Andes
Lorie Longhany

For More Information Call: 585-343-5808

Parents After Violence Program

Children who have been exposed to domestic violence need help, but more importantly, they need their parents’ help. This program aims to help parents who are victims of domestic violence understand the impact of abuse on their children and themselves. Parents will be provided with the tools to talk with their children, encourage resiliency and develop strategies to strengthen their relationship.
Events & Fundraisers

GLOW Women’s March— We gathered in solidarity with our sisters, daughters, mothers, and friends to promote equality, justice, and freedom for all women and girls.

April, 2019

YWCA Stand Against Racism— We participated in this year's "No Hate. No Fear." campaign uniting our voices to educate, advocate & promote racial justice.

April, 2019

YWCA Capitol Hill Day in Washington— We joined with YWCA’s from across the nation and advocated for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act.

June, 2019

Spring Fest— So many families enjoyed Spring Fest this year while helping support the programs of the YWCA!

June, 2019

Save the Date!

YWCA Night at the Races— Friday, August 23rd, 2019
Batavia Downs Gaming & Hotel, 8315 Park Rd., Batavia, NY Grandstand Doors Open at 5:00 p.m. Races Begin at 6:00 p.m. Ticket are $30 per person and are available for purchase at the YWCA of Genesee County, 301 North Street, Batavia NY

October 2019— Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Our Domestic Violence Program is participating in a week without violence again this year! Check out our website for more information on how you can get involved!

Get Out the Vote— September 9th, 17th & 24th, October 1st & 11th
Come and See Us and Register To Vote from 11 AM—1 PM in the Genesee Community College Forum. Your Voice. Your Vote. Your Future.

110 Year Anniversary Gala— September 19th, 2020
Batavia Downs; More Information to Follow

Supporting Our Community

United Way Day of Caring— Supporting our friends and neighbors by lending our helping hands.

May, 2019

Moms Demand Action Rally— Supporting Gun sense in America for safe communities & schools.

June, 2019

Lights for Liberty— Supporting humanity and dignity for all immigrant families.

July, 2019

Healthy Moms Community Resource Fair— Featuring the Global Big Latch On
Supporting & celebrating breast feeding moms.

August, 2019

Habitat for Humanity of Genesee County— Women Build Day
Supporting & empowering women to help families build strength and independence.

August, 2019

Thank you to Our Community for Supporting Us

Rotary Club of Batavia— Thank you Rotarians for the countless hours of labor you donated to help renovate our Domestic Violence Shelter!

Before

After

March, 2019

Neighborhood Mission Day— Thank you to the local Presbyterian churches for helping us reorganize and paint our offices.

May, 2019

Job Development Bureau of Genesee County— Thank you for sending us great helpers throughout the year.

2019

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2019
While we strive to increase the amount of victims served, our ultimate goal is to decrease the amount of those who come back again and assist in breaking the cycle of abuse.

There are many reason victims return back to their abuser, these reasons may include fear, low self-esteem, the inability to be financially independent, or many other reasons that may keep them from leaving. According to national statistics, it takes an average of 7 times for a victim to leave their abuser, before leaving for the last time.

Recognizing the behaviors that are a part of abuse is not always easy, even for survivors themselves. This is, in part, because domestic violence is much more than physical abuse. In fact, many people who have experienced abuse by their partner or family members or live in fear, have never been physically abused. There are many different ways the abusive partner can have power and control over their victim including physical, emotional, economic, isolation, sexual, and verbal abuse.

When a victim walks through our doors, our number one priority is their physical safety and emotional well-being. We identify each individual's needs and empower them to gain back their independence by providing them with services and resources in the community.

We Provide:

- Assistance with filing a Family Offense Petition and obtaining an Order of Protection
- Assistance with filing Custody and Visitation Petitions
- Court Accompaniment
- Individual Counseling
- Emergency Shelter
- Rights & Options
- Information and Referral
- Personal Advocacy
- Court Advocacy
- Support Groups
- Parenting After Violence
- Legal Aid Assistance

The Children’s Center in the Courts is the sole provider of services in Genesee county and serves an average of 500 new clients each year. While we strive to increase the amount of victims served, our ultimate goal is to decrease the amount of those who come back again and assist in breaking the cycle of abuse.

In response, the New York State Unified Court system developed the nation’s first statewide system of cheerful, welcoming Children’s Centers in the Courts. We operate one of seventeen Centers located across New York State that provide a safe, literacy-rich environment and an opportunity for positive interventions in the lives of vulnerable children from 6 weeks of age to 12 years old. Each child that enters the Center is introduced to the Imagination Library and is encouraged to take home a book of their choice; Our First Aid and CPR certified staff have been providing loving care to children for over 20 years.

Research shows that many of the children brought to court are five years or younger, poor, and not receiving vital services -- including health, educational and nutritional benefits -- to which they and their families are entitled. Our Center regularly facilitates connections between families and services such as Head Start, WIC, food stamps, literacy and other community services.

The Children’s Center in the Courts have truly turned a problem into a possibility, with positive outcomes for families.

My Sister’s Closet Boutique

The doors to the boutique opened in March of 1996 and has been a main staple for women and children to find new or gently used clothing and accessories ever since. Whether you need an outfit for an interview, a prom dress, a new pair of jeans or a winter jacket for your toddler; My Sister’s Closet Boutique is the place to come!

The Boutique has attracted dozens of dedicated volunteers and received countless donations from the community over the years. In fact, it wouldn’t be the success it is without all of you! The Boutique is run by volunteers who sort and display the clothing and accessories.

The donations you drop off will help you clean out your closet; it will assist our domestic violence clients in their time of need; and all proceeds will benefit our Domestic Violence Programming. It’s a win-win-win!

Oh, did we tell you we moved?

Don’t worry not far, in fact, just down the hall. Please come in and check out our new Boutique location, we think you will like our new look as much as we do!

* Look for our 20% coupon in this newsletter