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YWCA Southeast Wisconsin Announces Appointment of Interim President and CEO

Milwaukee, WI – YWCA Southeast Wisconsin (SEW) announced today that effective January 1, 2020, Ginny Finn would be the immediate successor to retiring President and CEO, Paula Penebaker. Finn will serve as Interim President and CEO, while stewarding the organization’s restructuring and expanding service delivery announced this past September.

At Penebaker’s invitation, Finn joined YWCA SEW in June 2018 as Chief Development Officer to oversee fundraising and strategic communications. “She knows the organization very well and is passionate about the mission. When the Board determines the time is right, she will pass the torch to the next executive and assure that person’s success and the organization’s continued growth,” noted Penebaker.

An attorney with 25+ years of experience in the arts, education and social services, Finn served as executive director of ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis for nearly a decade, and has led fund development efforts in Connecticut, New York City and metro-Milwaukee. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Breast Cancer Coalition and the IBC Network Foundation, as well as serves as co-chair of the Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center Community Advisory Board. Past community service includes the Boards of Directors of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin and the Fair Wisconsin Education Fund.

In September 2019, YWCA SEW announced acceleration of its overall strategic vision, which calls for increasing economic empowerment and racial justice programming that has had a direct impact on improving the employment and health of community members, while building a more just and economically vibrant region accessible to all. Those initiatives include more than doubling Adult Education enrollment opportunities and growing the integrated services of its Opportunity Advancement Center (OAC) and Women’s Professional Image Programs. In addition, Racial Justice Programming will expand its work with employers through its Bridge to Work Program and YWCA SEW’s Pay Equity/Living Wage Report Card will debut in 2020.

About YWCA Southeast Wisconsin

Now in its 126th year of service, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin (SEW) was incorporated in 1893 (formerly YWCA Greater Milwaukee) and today serves more than 10,000 individuals each year through its mission of eliminating racism, **empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all**. YWCA SEW fulfills this mission through the complementary approaches of direct individual economic empowerment services and community-focused racial justice thought leadership. This combination of economic empowerment and racial justice programming is YWCA SEW’s formula for building a more just and equitable Southeast Wisconsin.

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