

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

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YWCA SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN ANNOUNCES ELIMINATING RACISM AND EMPOWERING WOMEN AWARD RECIPIENTS

*16th annual An Evening to Promote Racial Justice set for December 9th
Virtual event will honor the remarkable advocacy of regional women leaders*

MILWAUKEE, WI, November 6, 2020 – YWCA Southeast Wisconsin (SEW) announced Sharlen Moore and Vicky Selkove as recipients of its two awards to be presented at its annual event focusing on racial justice. The award recipients will be honored during the 16th annual *An Evening to Promote Racial Justice* virtual program on Wednesday, December 9, 2020. The virtual pre-event “reception” will start at 6:30 p.m. with music and nostalgic memories for attendees to enjoy as the program begins.



Sharlen Moore, co-founder of Urban Underground, a nationally recognized grassroots youth development organization, is the recipient of the **Eliminating Racism** award for her lifelong commitment to building and sustaining grassroots leadership for change. Sharlen’s efforts have touched the lives of countless youth and have inspired a new generation of young leaders to carry forth the struggle for justice and equality. She is also the founding member of Youth Justice Milwaukee, a broad-based youth decarceration campaign focused on community-based, family-centered restorative justice programs.

Sharlen currently serves as Director of Youth Justice Milwaukee & Urban Underground, located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

“Sharlen’s passion and commitment to community justice has been an inspiration to us all,” expressed Martha Barry, chief racial justice officer, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin “We are grateful to have her as a leader in our community. Her determination to create the “face of the future” by working diligently with youth is key to moving us toward a more just and equitable Southeast Wisconsin.”



The second award recipient is Racine native, Vicky Selkove; she will receive the **Empowering Women** award. Vicky is the Manager of Strategic Initiatives & Community Partnerships for the City of Racine. In this role, she helps lead the City’s efforts to tackle systemic disparities and inequities, working with community residents and partner organizations to support and scale up effective strategies and programs. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, Vicky is a former lobbyist for Wisconsin’s largest civil legal aid law firm and was the Lead Instructor for the Wisconsin Women’s Network’s Policy Institute, which empowers women from around the state to become effective policy advocates.

“Vicky Selkove has been a tremendous asset to the Racine community and beyond,” stated Ginny Finn, president and CEO, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin “For more than 20 years, her devotion to policy advocacy and

systems change in Wisconsin has contributed to sustainable, systemic change for the women of Racine and the State.”

To read the full biographies of the award recipients and to learn more about the 16th annual *An Evening to Promote Racial Justice*, which will also feature YWCA USA CEO Alejandra Y. Castillo, visit our website www.ywcasew.org. Tickets will be available on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. All proceeds from the event will support YWCA Southeast Wisconsin’s racial justice programming.

About YWCA Southeast Wisconsin

With a bold mission to eliminate racism and empower women, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin’s work has three focus areas shared by YWCAs nationwide: racial justice, economic empowerment, and health/safety of women and their families. Serving 10,000+ individuals annually, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin equips and challenges our community to commit itself to peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Through its distinctive program services, justice thought leadership and community partnerships, YWCA Southeast Wisconsin seeks to foster a thriving, inclusive, and just Southeast Wisconsin defined by racial and gender equity as the foundation for healthy communities.

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