JUSTICE
EMPOWERMENT
IMPACT

2017 Annual Report
ywca
YWCA Southeast Wisconsin Fast Facts

Of the total population YWCA Southeast Wisconsin (SEW) serves:

- **82%** identified as Black or African American.
- **65%** indicated not having a valid driver's license.
- **58%** indicated not having a high school credential.
- **94%** served in Economic Empowerment programming had annual incomes below $10,000.

Total number served in 2017: **12,479**
YWCA Southeast Wisconsin is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

Senior Leadership

Paula Penebaker, President & CEO
Jennifer de Montmollin, Chief Program Officer
Shana Piaskoski, Chief Development Officer
John Yingling, Chief Financial Officer
Aylin Atay, IT Director
Martha Barry, Racial Justice Director
Norma Gaines, Operations Director
Holly Kaster, W-2 Director

2017 Board of Directors

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Deborah Allen     Erin Loofboro
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Nina Johnson      Steve Stall
Laura Lindner
RACIAL JUSTICE

We strive to eliminate racism by educating individuals in the community about systemic racism and ways to address it. Our ultimate goal is to equip people to take action against injustice where and when they can.

In 2017, YWCA SEW expanded the reach of our popular six-part series, *Unlearning Racism: Tools for Action* to Racine, WI.

Our Racial Justice team provided more than 70 consultations to employers around human resources practices that negatively impact job seekers and incumbent workers.

3,246 adults and youth participated in racial justice training with YWCA SEW.

33 employer engagements discussed recommendations directed at creating opportunities for unemployed people based on YWCA SEW’s Community Readiness Assessment findings.
YWCA SEW’s 13th Annual *An Evening to Promote Racial Justice* garnered the highest attendance yet with Dr. Michael Eric Dyson as the keynote speaker.

**Unlearning Racism: Tools for Action**

is the only training of its kind in the state of Wisconsin.

Class offerings doubled in 2017 with more than 30 participants registered per cohort.

133 participants completed the full six-part series.
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Many times individuals visit YWCA SEW for assistance due to circumstances beyond their control. YWCA SEW’s economic empowerment programs provide education and resources aimed at guiding participants on their path to economic success.

**Dress for Success Racine** and **Milwaukee’s Women’s Professional Image Program** prepare women for interviewing and success on the job.

- **6,599 unique participants** visited the **Opportunity Advancement Center** for technology access, job search guidance, resume and cover letter development and to brush up on interviewing skills.

- **628 women** were suited for job interviews and/or their first full week of employment.
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

YWCA SEW’s Auto Loan Access Program is the only program in Milwaukee County that connects working, credit-challenged individuals with affordable auto loans and credit focused case management throughout repayment.

122 unique participants completed Personal Financial Management workshops in 2017.

90% of auto loan borrowers repay loans on time.

77% of borrowers identified as women.
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Participants in YWCA SEW’s Adult Education programming dropped out of high school due to a variety of life challenges. By securing a safe space to study, ask questions or join a cohort of other adult learners, participants are able to regain confidence and opportunity access by earning their General Education Diploma (GED) or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED).

YWCA SEW’s PI 5.09 HSED program expanded to Racine, WI in 2017, allowing more adult learners to earn their diploma. Through our 20-week course, participants are immersed in YWCA SEW’s proprietary curriculum focused on workforce skills and real life applications.

YWCA SEW’s PI 5.09 HSED program is the only one in the state that has a workforce readiness component with the National Career Readiness Certificate, an evidence-based credential that certifies the essential skills for workplace success.

Employers know this credential as a valid predictor of job performance.
70% of adult education participants identified as women.

86% of adult learners who began the PI 5.09 HSED program graduated.

141 adult learners obtained their GED or HSED.

More than 75% of graduates obtained National Career Readiness Certification.

YWCA SEW has the only regional PI 5.09 HSED program.
OUR IMPACT

YWCA SEW strives to impact as many lives as possible by putting our mission in action.

We work to eliminate racism by educating the community about racial injustice and ways to combat it.

We empower women by providing services that encourage women to develop and achieve their goals.

Pictured above: Participants from racial justice training in 2017.
OUR IMPACT

This class opened my eyes to the seriousness of disparity in our country, as well as educating me on the mechanisms and strategies that were being used to orchestrate said disparities. - Unlearning Racism: Tools for Action Participant

My daughter told me seeing me in a cap and gown was the proudest she has ever been of me. And I’m not done, I start classes in fall for nursing. I love you, YWCA! I tell everyone “Go see them! You can do it, too! – HSED Participant

This program changed my life. I have advanced in my career (more money!) and spend more time with my children because the YWCA took a chance on me. I am beyond grateful.– ALAP Participant
For donor list and audited financials, visit www.ywcasew.org/annualreport