



YWCA **IS ON A** **MISSION**

Annual Report
2019-2020

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

missoula

ENDING DOMESTIC and SEXUAL VIOLENCE



PATHWAYS

The YWCA's **Pathways Program** is more than just a shelter. We are invested in creating real change for real people, which means offering a range of ongoing support for survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Clients can reach advocates through our 24-hour hotline, walk-in counseling, and weekly support groups. Pathways also provides in-house short-term therapy, children's services, and referrals for legal, personal, and medical advocacy.

1,044 callers assisted on the crisis line, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

5,109 nights of safe shelter provided to adults and children fleeing violence

PLANET KIDS

Planet Kids Supervised Visitation and Exchange Center provides monitored visits for children of all ages who have been impacted by domestic and sexual violence and stalking, and their non-residential parents. The goal of the program, which is currently the only one of its kind in Missoula, is to promote positive interactions between children and parents while also protecting the safety of survivors.

131 children enjoyed time with their non-custodial parent at Planet Kids



YWCA MISSOULA is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

With a mighty team of **59** staff and **130** volunteers, last year we served over **3,300** people– the majority of whom were low-income women.

CHANGING LIVES



409 families accessed emergency, transitional, or long-term housing, or other support services

ADA'S PLACE

Ada's Place Housing Program is the primary housing provider for homeless Missoula families. These are one- and two-parent households that, whether due to loss of a job, unaffordable rent, or domestic violence, suddenly find themselves with no place to live. Families work closely with staff to secure permanent housing and economic stability. Ada's Place provides emergency housing, longer-term transitional housing, and funding for rental assistance.

TRANSFORMING our COMMUNITY

RACIAL JUSTICE

The **Racial Justice Initiative** aims to spark dialogue, reflection, and action about issues of racial justice in Missoula. This includes community education and partnerships, as well as internal programming and staff training to better serve Black, Indigenous and People of Color across all YWCA programs.

GUTS!

GUTS! (Girls Using Their Strengths) encourages girls and gender-diverse youth to explore personal values, build healthy relationships and discover their strengths. GUTS! programs include school-based groups, skill-building and trade exploration workshops, and summer outdoor adventures.

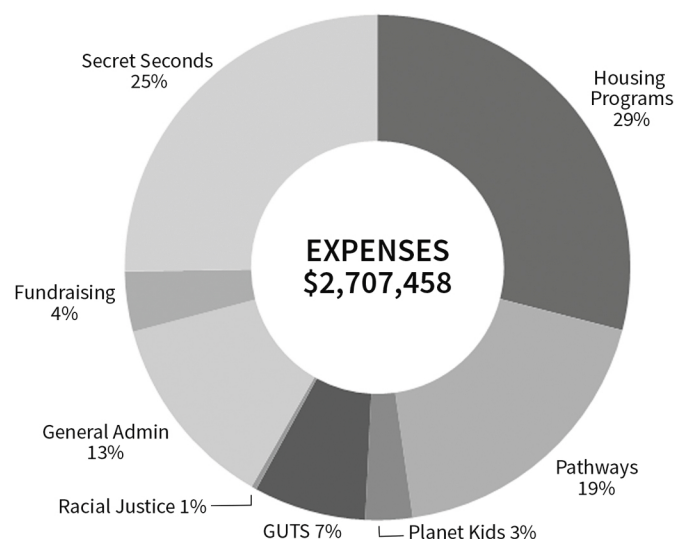
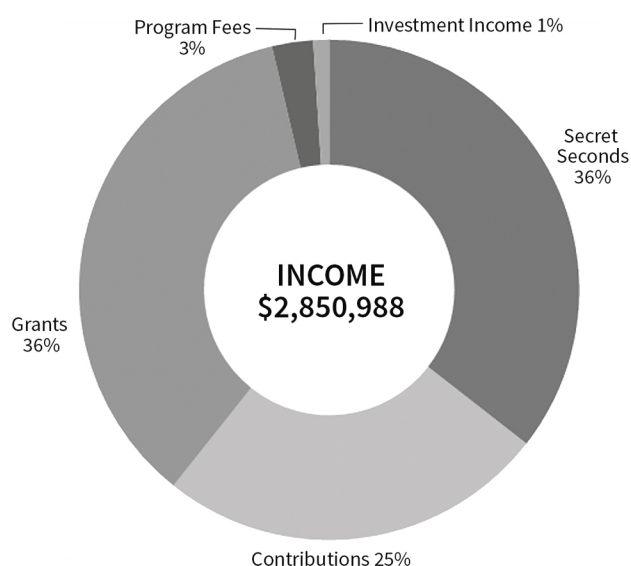
287 girls and gender-diverse youth were empowered through school programs, workshops and summer adventures



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Although COVID-19 forced a shift in daily operations, the YWCA carried on essential programs without interruption this year. Case managers continued to help homeless families find stable housing while they navigated additional challenges of remote school, loss of employment, and an uncertain housing market. Cleaning and safety protocols were implemented at the domestic violence shelter. And GUTS! moved to a virtual platform, providing mentorship to youth across Montana. Agency-wide, staff remained flexible and creative, adapting to meet the needs of our community.

YWCA Missoula programs are supported by generous financial contributions from community members and foundations, grant funding, and proceeds from YWCA Missoula's Secret Seconds Thrift Stores.



To view financial information go to www.ywcaofmissoula.org/about

THE YEAR AHEAD

Construction of The Meadowlark will be complete in Spring 2021. With room for up to 31 homeless families and 13 survivors of domestic violence and their children—plus large shared kitchens, children's play and study areas, health care and wellness rooms—The Meadowlark will offer immediate safety in the wake of crisis, coupled with a full span of support services under one roof.

Opening The Meadowlark will allow YWCA Missoula to serve twice as many families and survivors, provide more comprehensive support, and meet a critical community need for emergency housing.

Learn more at SeeThemHome.org

