

## ON A MISSION: AN UPDATE FOR YWCA SUPPORTERS



### Greetings and Gratitude

What a busy and exciting month it has been as we get settled into The Meadowlark! Our dedicated staff and volunteers have been unpacking boxes, hanging art on the walls, and making the beds (there are 178 of them!), as we prepare to serve families, survivors, women, and children in this new building. And while The Meadowlark is home to the YWCA's programs and services, it is indeed a building for all of Missoula and one that depends on strong community partnerships. We're especially grateful to be operating the Missoula Family Housing Center wing of the building alongside Family Promise. Their commitment to service and social change is reflected in the relationships they foster, the meals they serve, and the mighty team of volunteers they unite.

In addition to Family Promise, a number of other organizations are partnering with us to provide services in The Meadowlark. These will include onsite access to legal, medical, and dental services, as well as enrichment programs for children. It's inspiring to witness these growing collaborations based on a shared dedication to our community.

If you'd like to get more involved, there are a number of ways to support our work at The Meadowlark. We can't do it alone, and it's going to take all hands on deck. We hope you'll find your place, wherever that may be, among us.

Cindy Weese  
Executive Director

### What's New

#### We've Moved to The Meadowlark!



We're open for services at The Meadowlark! Big thanks to the volunteers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at the University of Montana for helping us move, as well as Two Men and a Truck moving company.

Please note our new address and update your records:  
**YWCA Missoula - 1800 S. 3rd St. W., Missoula, MT 59801.**

Last week we held a virtual ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the official opening of The Meadowlark. You can [watch a recording of the ceremony here](#).

Are you interested in donating items to help families and survivors in our new building? [Please check out our program wish lists](#).

The solar panels on the roof of The Meadowlark are soaking up the sunshine! Each panel can power about one sleeping room in the building per day.

Many thanks to NorthWestern Energy for their support of our solar project. This renewable generation project received funding through the NorthWestern Energy Efficiency Plus (E+) Renewable Energy Program. The program is established with Universal System Benefits Program funds collected from all NorthWestern electric customers in Montana.



## Swing Big for Kids: All donations matched by Missoula PaddleHeads until May 21!



[Give today](#) and make twice the impact. **We have \$8,445 left to reach our goal--** will you pitch in?

The Missoula PaddleHeads are generously matching all donations through May 21st-- up to \$25,000-- to support the youth in our programs!

These funds will help provide kids who have experienced homelessness or violence a chance to try new activities, connect with peers and mentors, and build positive memories while they stay at The Meadowlark.

[Learn more and donate here](#)

## Stand Against Racism- Community Video

At the end of April, YWCA Missoula joined YWCA chapters across the country to #StandAgainstRacism, an annual campaign dedicated to furthering our mission of eliminating racism.

We put together a community resources video to highlight the work that several groups are doing to improve the health and wellbeing of our BIPOC community members. [Watch the community resources video](#) to learn more about their work and how you can support their efforts.



## Get Involved

### Advocate for Survivors

Are you looking for a rewarding and impactful volunteer experience that will allow you to work directly with survivors of domestic and sexual violence? Our professional-caliber training will be held June 14th-24th

(32 hours total), and prepare you to volunteer at the shelter, answer calls on the crisis line, or provide peer counseling at the walk-in center.

[Learn more about advocate training.](#)

## Employment Opportunities

Join our team! We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- Planet Kids visit monitors (part time)
- Rapid Rehousing case manager (part time)
- Overnight Family Housing Center advocates (part time and full time)
- Secret Seconds store clerk (part time)

[See job descriptions and application instructions](#)

## Donate Items on Our Wish List

Your donations of basic necessities can help families through everyday challenges. *We are currently only accepting new/ unused items.*

[View our program wish lists here](#)

**\*We are especially in need of under-bed storage bins for families to keep personal items in while they reside at The Meadowlark. [See details on our wish list](#)**

YWCA Missoula | (406) 543-6691 | [www.ywcamissoula.org](http://www.ywcamissoula.org)

Crisis line: (406) 542-1944 or (800) 483-7858

STAY CONNECTED

