

## ON A MISSION: AN UPDATE FOR YWCA SUPPORTERS



### Greetings and Gratitude

As the old year ends, and a new one begins, I cannot help but reflect on the year that was. 2021 was a year of challenges, triumphs, and changes for YWCA Missoula. In the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we stayed true to our mission of empowering women and eliminating racism. We opened our brand-new facility, the Meadowlark, expanding our ability to help unhoused families and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. And while we have made great strides in creating a more just world for all, our work is not done. There are still local families losing their housing this winter. There are still mothers having to choose between their own physical safety and a roof over their children's heads.

The year ahead will have its own struggles, but I know that [with your help](#) our dedicated team of staff and volunteers will again rise to the challenge. As we work to make sure that every family and domestic violence survivor has a warm and safe place to sleep at night, your contribution helps them receive the dignity, peace, and joy promised by this holiday season.

Wishing you a safe and happy New Year,

Cindy Weese  
Executive Director

### Get Involved

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Domestic and sexual violence can happen to anyone, with lasting impacts on families and communities. YWCA Pathways is recruiting advocates to support women, children, and families in Missoula. Training starts **Monday, January 24**. For more

information [email Alena](#) or submit a YWCA [volunteer form](#).



Do you have what it takes to prepare the next generation of girls and gender-diverse youth for the world around them? **GUTS! is recruiting Action Facilitators for Spring 2022.** GUTS! encourages young people to explore personal values and discover their strengths through wilderness adventures in the summer, as well as through after-school groups and service projects

during the academic year. [Email Alena](#) for more information or submit a YWCA [volunteer form](#).

Got an Ugly Holiday Sweater Party coming up?

**Proceeds from all purchases at Secret Seconds go directly to YWCA Missoula programs** helping local families in crisis. Shopping at [Secret Seconds](#) is an easy way to support YWCA's mission and programs.



Find Secret Seconds Thrift Stores at 920 Kensington and 1136 W. Broadway. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 AM—6PM.



**YWCA Talking Circle**, a group led by Native women for Native and Non-Native women, meets virtually on Tuesdays from 6:15-7:45 PM to discuss Native Women's Issues. [Contact Victoria](#) for more information and to get a link to the weekly meeting.

One struggle faced by survivors of domestic violence and unhoused families is the thought of not being able to take care of their pets while seeking shelter. YWCA Missoula is teaming up with Western Montana Humane Society to host an online **Pet Advocate trainings!** The Humane Society of Western Montana supports this program by providing veterinary care, vaccinations, and behavior advice as needed. Call Alena at 406-543-6691 or [submit a YWCA volunteer form](#).



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## What's New

### #GivingTuesday



This [#GivingTuesday](#), Missoulians just like you supported women, children, and families in our community. While there is still much more work to be done, we are grateful to everyone that donated their time, money, and resources to make sure no child has to sleep in a car this winter.

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## Upcoming Events

### Tour the Meadowlark

What does a day at the new Meadowlark facility look like? Learn about how the YWCA's programs benefit homeless families, domestic violence survivors, and Montana's youth. Join us for an informational tour!

**Tuesday, December 14 at 12:30 PM.**

**Tuesday, January 11 at 12:30 PM.**

**Tuesday, February 8 at 12:30 PM.**

**Tuesday, March 8 at 12:30 PM.**

[RSVP here](#)



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

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

STAY CONNECTED

