

ON A MISSION: AN UPDATE FOR YWCA SUPPORTERS



Greetings and Gratitude

For the domestic violence survivors in our programs, the most common need we see is housing—and it is often the most unmet need. This is especially true as affordable rentals in Missoula have become nearly impossible to find.

Women who have experienced recent or ongoing domestic violence, which often includes financial abuse, are more likely to face eviction than other women. In fact, one in four unhoused women is homeless because of violence committed against her.

And unfortunately, the violence has a ripple effect among families and communities. By age 12, nearly a quarter of homeless children have witnessed acts of violence within their families, leading to generational abuse and homelessness.

Adequate funding for safe and affordable housing is critical to supporting survivors and their families. Housing is a human right, and without it, survivors will struggle to break free from violent relationships.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Weese'.

Cindy Weese
Executive Director

What's New

Welcome to Jen Euell, next Executive Director

After a highly competitive nationwide search, the Board of Directors has selected Jen Euell as YWCA Missoula's next executive director. Jen comes (back) to the YWCA with a wealth of experience advocating for survivors and a passion for women-led change. Jen will begin her position in January when Cindy retires.

[Learn more about Jen here.](#)



Program Updates

Pathways Domestic Violence Shelter

Our domestic violence shelter at The Meadowlark is full (and busy!), with 13 adults and 20 children. The YWCA advocates have been working with residents to help them find permanent housing and other resources they need. In the last month, two survivors were able to move into their own housing and four survivors found new employment. These are big successes to celebrate!

GUTS! Fall Virtual Groups

There are still a few spots left in GUTS! after-school virtual groups. [Register your child today!](#)

GUTS! is a leadership and empowerment program for 4th-8th grade girls and gender-diverse youth. The curriculum features a variety of topics: naming strengths and mentors, setting boundaries, self-regulation techniques, body image, and community-building. Virtual groups are held online with optional field trips.

- 4th & 5th grade- Tuesdays 4-5pm
- 6th-8th grade- Wednesdays 3:30-4:30 pm

Questions? [Email Jess.](#)

Who We Are



Monique Schulte, Pathways Lead Advocate

Monique is the Pathways Lead Advocate and oversees the domestic violence shelter at The Meadowlark. She has been an addictions professional for 21 years and previously worked as a domestic violence counselor with the YWCA in California. As an Indigenous, queer, survivor of childhood and adult domestic violence, Monique feels aligned with the mission of the YWCA and passionate about the work of the organization. In her free time, Monique enjoys going on walks with her partner and their six fur babies (usually stopping to get puppy cones at Big Dipper), and cooking with lots of butter and love.

Get Involved

Become a Sexual Assault Response Advocate

We are looking for on-call Sexual Assault Response Advocates. Sexual assault advocates provide emotional support to survivors during medical examinations, interviews, and other processes; assist with safety planning; provide information regarding rights and options; and assist with referral to additional resources as needed.

To learn more or apply, [email Carol Roberts](#) or call (406) 543-6691.

Tour The Meadowlark

Join us for an informational tour and learn about how the YWCA's programs benefit families, youth, and domestic violence survivors. **Light lunch provided upon request**

UPCOMING DATES:

- Tuesday, November 8th, 12:30-1:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 13th, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Limited space. Please [RSVP here](#) to confirm availability and request lunch.

Questions? [Contact Diane.](#)

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 that are on our wish list.* We accept donations Monday- Friday, 9am- 5pm.

- [Domestic Violence Shelter needs](#)
- [Family Housing Center needs](#)
- [Youth Services needs](#)

Employment Opportunities

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

- Volunteer Coordinator (full time)
- Youth Advocate (part time)
- Family Housing Center weekend/ evening advocate (full time)
- Secret Seconds store clerks (part time/ full time)

[Find job descriptions and application instructions here](#)

YWCA Missoula | (406) 543-6691 | www.ywcamissoula.org

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

STAY CONNECTED

