

April 2024



Dear Friend,

The **YWCA Racial Justice Challenge** kicks off today, April 1st! We're excited to partner with YWCAs across the country to participate in this virtual learning community. The challenge is free and open to all. I encourage you to join us and share with others.

Over the course of four weeks, you'll have access to daily activities and online discussions designed to cultivate effective social justice habits. From reading articles to reflecting on personal experiences, each day offers an opportunity to deepen your understanding of crucial topics and work at your own pace. This year's challenge will spotlight four vital areas: bodily autonomy, financial empowerment, gun violence, and transportation, with a week dedicated to each theme.

Intentional anti-racism work is critical to our mission and all our programs. We know that we cannot empower all women or provide pathways to safety and stability for all survivors and unhoused families, unless we work to eliminate racism.

I hope you'll join me in embracing this unique opportunity and learn alongside the national YWCA community of changemakers. Together, let's create a more equitable and inclusive world, where everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

In Possibility,

Jen Euell  
Executive Director

P.S. I also hope to see you this Friday, April 5th at the annual **Women's Law Caucus Auction** benefiting our Pathways Program!

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## New & Noteworthy

### YWCA Racial Justice Challenge

Are you ready to take the challenge? For four weeks, daily learning activities will be posted on the Racial Justice Challenge website and app. Activities take just a few minutes to complete and are designed to foster personal reflection and discussion, as well as motivate participants to take action to dismantle racism and other forms of discrimination.



[Learn More](#)

## Women's Law Caucus Silent Auction: April 5

Join us for the 25th annual silent auction fundraiser hosted by the Women's Law Caucus at the University of Montana! Bid on handmade items, gift cards, experiences, and more at the auction. Plus, free appetizers and a 50/50 raffle. All proceeds go to our Pathways domestic and sexual violence program.

**WHEN:** Friday, April 5th, 6-8 PM

**WHERE:** **Alexander Blewett School of Law** on UM campus

Online bidding is now open! View items and bid [here](#).

## Supporter Spotlight

Big shout out to Miriam Dypiango, a 7th grader at St. Joseph School, who organized a toy drive for the children in our shelters. Miriam collected over 50 toys, which will be given out to kids who have birthdays while staying with us. Thank you to Miriam and all students at St. Joe's who pitched in for this impactful group effort!



## Program Update: Housing Case Management

Thanks to grant funding from Stranahan Foundation, we are now offering enhanced case management services in our Family Housing Center. Dedicated housing case managers provide personalized support multiple times a week, working alongside families to address complex barriers like mental health issues and document procurement. With this new support, we're better equipped to assist families on their journey to secure housing.

[Learn More](#)

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## Get Involved

### Donate Toddler Clothing and Baby Monitors (and Other Wish List Items)

Donate **new or gently used** toddler clothing (size 2T-4T), baby monitors and other necessities

for the children and families in our programs. You can order from our Amazon wish list and have them shipped to us directly- just select YWCA Missoula shipping address at checkout! Donations can also be dropped off at **The Meadowlark** front desk, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

[View Wish List](#)

## Support YWCA for Missoula Gives: May 2-3

Save the date for the annual community-wide day of giving, May 2-3! This year we are raising funds for our youth programs, which support and empower children and families who have experienced houselessness and/or domestic violence. Join us for Missoula Gives!



[Learn More](#)

## Shop at Secret Seconds

Go shopping for a good cause! All purchases from YWCA Missoula's Secret Seconds Thrift Stores support all our programs and services. Find the stores at 920 Kensington and 1136 W. Broadway. Open Tuesday- Saturday, 10am-6pm.

[Learn More](#)

## Employment Opportunities

Join our team and make a difference in the community! We're currently hiring for the following positions:

- Planet Kids Co-Manager
- Secret Seconds Store Clerk
- Family Housing Center Shelter Coordinator
- Overnight Coordinator
- Finance Clerk/ Billing Specialist

[Learn more and apply](#)



YWCA Missoula | 1800 S 3rd St W, Missoula, MT 59801 Crisis line: (406) 542-1944

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