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YWCA OF CALGARY | DONOR RECOGNITION | INTERVENE | EMPOWER | LEAD

The truth is, we can't do it alone. The YWCA of Calgary could not have provided support and valuable programs to over 10,000 women and their families in 2011/2012 without the contributions and commitment of our supporters. We are grateful to be part of an extraordinary community.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO & BOARD CHAIR

Fresh off the excitement of our centennial, the board, executive, staff and volunteers of the YWCA of Calgary spent 2011/12 focused on the next 100 years of service. The organization has galvanized around a new mission, vision and strategic intentions.

Vision Statement:

Women thriving in a safe and equitable community.

Mission Statement:

To intervene, empower and lead when and where women need us most.

Strategic Intentions:

- To be a catalyst to a city sensitive and responsive to the real needs of women.
- To be a leader in ending family violence and poverty.
- To be a work place of choice for people committed to measurable impact.

We're delighted to have unearthed such clarity of purpose and the bold language necessary to capture it. As the organization moves ahead with the execution of a new strategic plan, this lens will enable us to clearly identify the work which fits, as well as that which doesn't. Such distinctions are key to maintaining the financial health of the organization and achieving our mission.

2011/12 was not only a year of planning – in the past year we:

- Expanded our role in providing community-based housing for women experiencing poverty with the opening of Ophelia, a permanent housing program for single homeless women, supported by the Calgary Homeless Foundation and First Calgary Financial.
- Completed renovations to the YWCA Mary Dover House 7th floor, which resulted in the creation of additional short term supportive housing for women and their children.
- Hosted The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean for the inaugural WHYWHISPER Gala, which raised nearly \$600,000.
- Supported the transformation of women seeking a non-traditional career path, as the Vermilion Energy/YWCA Skills Training Centre hit the 125 graduate mark.

- Increased the number of seats available in the LINC (Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada) program by almost 20 per cent due to a growing demand.
- Published *Creating Cornerstones – A History of the YWCA* – a centennial commemoration which celebrates the history and service of the organization.
- Received a three-year Safe Communities Innovation Fund (SCIF) grant from the Government of Alberta to design and implement the High Conflict Custody Parenting program, in partnership with the Children's Legal Education & Resource Centre (CLERC).
- Participated in the All Our Sisters Conference in London, Ontario and brought along former residents from the YWCA Mary Dover House transitional housing program, now living in community housing.
- Launched a research paper and client photo voice project focused on the criticality of transitional housing for women, entitled *A Place to Rest*.
- Participated in the 16th International Conference on Violence, Abuse and Trauma in San Diego, California which included presentations from our team of family violence prevention experts.

All of that while assisting 10,160 women, children and men experiencing family violence and poverty with a continuum of services and programs focused on moving women from a position of vulnerability to a place of strength.

We could not do any of this alone. It's the work of 330 committed staff, 767 volunteers, the support of key community and government partners and individual and corporate donors which enable our organization to assist women and their families when and where they need us most.

Thank you for sharing our vision and helping women thrive in our community.

Sincerely,

Sue Tomney
Chief Executive Officer

Lori Van Rooijen
Chair of the Board

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YWCA OF CALGARY

A sincere thank you to all of the supporters who have dedicated their time, treasures and talents to the YWCA of Calgary. We have received numerous gifts of food, new clothing and other useful items which enable us to support our clients. Please accept our gratitude for your continued support.

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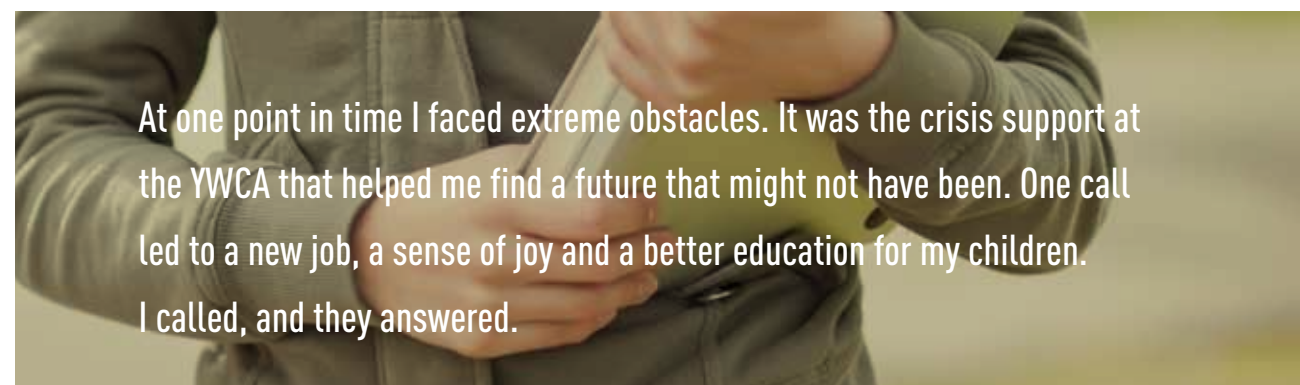
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