

# community report



## keeping children safer.

This past year, **ywca clark county** served a record number of children and families through our advocacy, education, and prevention. Thanks to our generous supporters, we will continue to provide the tools, support, and care necessary to foster healthy families and safer communities.

## 2010

eliminating racism  
empowering women

# ywca

clark county

**ywca clark county**

is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

## from our board



Sherri Bennett and Kelly Walsh

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- Sherri Bennett, Executive Director
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- Cheryl Armstrong    Greg Kimsey
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- Stacey Graham    Cathy Ramer
- Val Joshua    Kayla Tiano
- Pat Jollota    Kevin Weaver

Dear **ywca** Supporters:

In 2010 **ywca clark county** experienced quite the roller-coaster ride. We said a tearful good-bye to an exceptional Executive Director (Kathy Kniep) and then welcomed in equally exceptional Sherri Bennett. Sherri comes to the position of Executive Director having first served as an on call shelter advocate in 1997! She then proceeded through several positions, including the Director of SafeChoice, before stepping into the role of primary leadership. In Sherri the **ywca** has found a qualified, dedicated, and mission-driven leader.

With new leadership comes new challenges and successes, and I would be remiss if I did not take a few minutes to say thank you to those who made 2010 an amazing year. First, a huge thank you to Kathy Kniep and Sherri Bennett. These two stand out in our community as amazing leaders, and our organization is fortunate to reap the benefits of their leadership.

Second, a huge thank you to our phenomenal donors, volunteers, and staff. In our time of greatest need, **ywca** supporters rose to the challenge and provided volunteer hours, funding, sponsorships, and support that we are incredibly grateful for. Despite long hours and hard work, our staff continues to provide hope and healing to thousands each year.

Difficult economic times hit the **ywca** in full force last year. While we served a record number of women, children, and families, we were also forced to make some heart-wrenching budget cuts that resulted in severe reductions to staffing and services. In fact, just as the demand for our services saw a 10% surge, we had to slice our budget by more than 8%. As the President of the organization, I can assure you that this difficult decision was made with careful deliberation, knowing that every dollar cut meant a child without an advocate, a woman without shelter, or a teen without support. This year, more than ever, we rely on our supporters who help us change – and save – lives every day.

So, with tightened purse strings, we look toward 2011 with a singular directive: to keep children and families safer. The **ywca** will be mindfully focusing on each and every service, activity, and decision with one question in mind: is this furthering our goal of keeping children and families safer? With that goal, I am looking forward to the fabulous things this organization will achieve in 2011. I hope you are too.

Sincerely,

Kelly Walsh, President

## from our board

### justice for children

by Pat Jollota

Twenty years ago, the City of Vancouver and Clark County set aside a fund of money to be used for mutual benefit. What greater benefit than to protect our community's kids? So was born the Child Abuse Intervention Center. It would handle all types of abuse: mental, physical, sexual, misdemeanor, and felony.

We quickly learned that felony child abuse was rife in Clark County.

The center was groundbreaking. Law enforcement and social workers across the region were certain that it would never work; that it was a waste of effort and tax dollars. Truthfully, it was not an easy birth. Turf issues, work styles, leadership positions; the challenges seemed to be insurmountable. But two words kept popping up: our kids.

The Child Abuse Intervention Center's Executive Board was composed of elected officials and police leadership: the Sheriff, the Chief of Police, the County Prosecutor, a City Councilmember, and a County Commissioner. We added an Assistant Attorney General and a **ywca** sexual abuse expert. The group was singularly committed to keeping children safer. The staff consisted of our Executive Director and three legal secretaries. The Sheriff's Department and Vancouver Police Department contributed detectives. The Prosecutor's Office gave a corps of attorneys. The **ywca** contributed an advocate. The Children's Center partnered for mental health assistance, and a nurse practitioner provided medical exams. Then we crossed our fingers it would work.

It did work. Children's advocates from around the country came to see how we did it. State and Federal legislatures visited. They marveled.

We became a region known for our ability to serve the vulnerable children who were victims of child abuse, and it was in large part because of the ground-breaking work of the **ywca** Sexual Assault Program.

"It's a Cadillac agency," it was said. One of our officers once said, "Our kids deserve Cadillacs." With that, he meant that during a child's darkest hour, he or she deserves the most comprehensive, supportive care and advocacy. That was our singular directive.



Over the years, we outgrew the old center, relocated, and reorganized. As a tribute to the man who originally conceived the center, it was renamed the Arthur Curtis Children's Justice Center (CJC).

Twenty years ago I was a freshman councilmember when I was given this assignment. I relinquished it in January 2009 when I retired. Before I came to Vancouver I was a civilian employee of the LAPD. I've been around child abuse for over 40 years, and right now, in Clark County, I'm seeing case loads as never before. I'm seeing abuse of children in our county that gives me nightmares. We averaged some 60 cases a month for 20 years. Last May we spiked to 300. That means triaging felony cases.

Is it the economy? Is it a general breakdown of our society? Is it drugs or alcohol? Is it a combination of many factors reaching critical mass?

Many people cannot conceive that these horrible crimes against children occur. Many are not aware this is going on here, in Clark County, at such rampant pace, and that the CJC and **ywca clark county** are experiencing double and triple the numbers of victims.

**ywca clark county works with the CJC to improve the state of our community. This natural connection makes Pat's involvement with the ywca exceptionally meaningful. Aside from the ywca Board of Directors, she also serves on the CJC Committee, the Board of the Philanthropic Educational Organization, the Arc of Clark County, and Animal Control Advisory Committee.**

# honoring Term Nylund

reflecting  
on a  
generous  
spirit

Beautiful, bright, generous, kind, witty, and an infectious giggle—these words can only describe one person. Term Nylund was a strong, empowering, and respected member of our community. Her passing in June of 2010 was a sad day for many, and the **ywca** joins everyone in celebrating her life.

Term was the epitome of **ywca** core values: service, respect, empowerment, diversity, teamwork, and commitment. She was dedicated to her friends, family, and community, always empowering those who worked with her. She had incredible character; treating everyone fairly and with respect. Those who knew her say that she was a pleasure to know and the kind of person one just wants to be around. “If she befriended you, she was your friend no matter what. I learned a lot about acceptance from her,” said her good friend, Terry Murphy.

Term’s impact on the **ywca** was significant. After being introduced to **ywca clark county** in 1996, Term’s dedication grew. Initially, she worked on the yearly auction with newfound friends Verna Taylor and Terry Murphy. From then on, she always sponsored events, bought tables and sent money to help the community through the services offered at the **ywca**. When she passed away, the **ywca** learned that she left a bequest to our organization. Her gift provides an ongoing income stream to help sustain our programs. Further, it will help the **ywca** serve thousands of children and families each year by substantially improving their lives through the support of **ywca** staff and volunteers.

Known for her generous spirit, Term’s memory now lives on through the thousands of lives she touches through philanthropy. Her reasoning was simple: if one has more than she needs, she has the responsibility to share.



“The most memorable thing about her was her generous spirit and all the lives she touched because of her generosity. People’s lives were truly changed. Their lives were made easier and their lives were made better because of her generosity.”  
Terry Murphy  
friend of Term Nylund

Term saw the **ywca** through the capital campaign which supported the new building, the implementation of the SafeChoice legal clinic, and the implementation of the Social Change Program. Her dedication and support was evident then, and will continue to thrive through **ywca** programs and services in the future.

# creating a lasting legacy

planned  
giving

Exceptional community members like Term Nylund have supported our efforts through generous planned giving over the years. The endowment fund was established in 1987 when Mary Powell left a gift of over one million dollars to the **ywca**. Since then, the generous support of Term Nylund, Ray Hickey and Helene Schoen, among others, has helped grow this endowment.

You can support **ywca** and its important programs with your generous donation to the endowment, program-specific gifts, and other planned giving options. Every dollar of your charitable gift reduces our reliance on fundraising and events to support our critical programs and secures services for our community now and in the future.

When you include **ywca clark county** as part of your estate plan, you contribute to unduplicated programs and services that others in our community rely upon.

There are several giving options that can maximize your gift, meet your individual needs, and provide a lasting legacy to the **ywca**. Your generous gift can benefit others, and can benefit you, too. We can assist in connecting you with advisors to create a planned gift that works for your individual situation.

Individual, committed giving can take many forms: For instance, you may choose to:

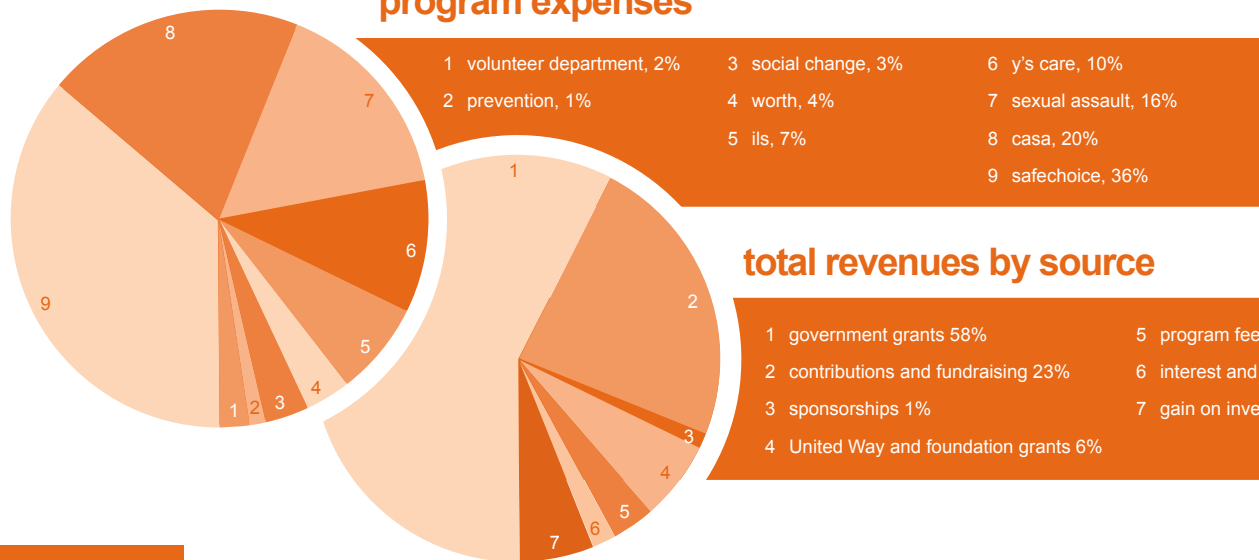
- name **ywca** as a beneficiary in your will or living trust.
- name **ywca** as a beneficiary on your life insurance policy or retirement account.
- donate your vacation, rental property, or residence directly to the **ywca**—and continue to live in it.
- establish a charitable gift annuity or charitable trust.
- establish a **ywca** endowment fund in your name or to honor another.

For more information on how your gifts contribute to our community in significant ways, please contact our Development Director at **360 696 0167**.



# 2010 financial statement

## program expenses



## total revenues by source

- 1 government grants 58%
- 2 contributions and fundraising 23%
- 3 sponsorships 1%
- 4 United Way and foundation grants 6%
- 5 program fees, in-kind and other 4%
- 6 interest and dividend income 2%
- 7 gain on investment 6%

## condensed statement of financial position (audited)

<b>assets</b>	
current assets, cash and receivables	\$534,287
net property and equipment, at cost	1,912,920
investments and other assets	2,654,033
<b>total assets</b>	<b>\$5,101,240</b>
<b>liabilities</b>	
current payables and liabilities	\$292,917
unearned revenues	106,979
long-term liabilities	16,322
<b>total liabilities</b>	<b>\$416,218</b>
<b>net assets</b>	
unrestricted - available for operations	\$1,621,154
unrestricted - board designated	1,711,858
permanently and temporarily restricted	1,352,010
<b>total net assets</b>	<b>\$4,685,022</b>
<b>total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$5,101,240</b>

<b>operating revenues and support</b>	
government grants	\$2,009,865
contributions and fundraising	559,475
sponsorships	38,076
United Way and foundation grants	191,185
program fees, in-kind and other	126,373
interest and dividend income	71,265
<b>total revenues and support</b>	<b>\$2,996,239</b>
<b>operating expenses</b>	
program expenses	\$2,503,803
fundraising	377,235
management and general	684,546
<b>total expenses</b>	<b>\$3,565,584</b>
operating gain (loss)	(\$569,345)
transfer of restricted contributions	10,067
<b>change in operating funds</b>	<b>(\$559,278)</b>

<b>board-designated funds</b>	
contributions	\$251,958
investment income	200,464
transfer of restricted contributions	0
<b>change in board-designated funds</b>	<b>\$452,422</b>

<b>permanently and temporarily restricted funds</b>	
contributions	\$6,489
United Way and foundation grants	33,696
investment income	174
transfer of restricted contributions	10,067
<b>change in restricted funds</b>	<b>\$30,292</b>

<b>change in total net assets</b>	<b>\$76,564</b>
net assets, July 1, 2009	\$4,761,586
change in net assets	(\$76,564)
<b>net assets, June 30, 2009</b>	<b>\$4,685,022</b>

## condensed statement of financial activities (audited)

# thanks to our volunteers



**44,000 hours**  
**\$941,425 value**

ywca clark county's seven programs support our mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. The success of these programs in 2010 is largely related to the dedication and service of our 712 volunteers. Last year, 44,000 hours of volunteer time was given to ywca clark county. Washington State has a system for calculating the value of the volunteer hour, giving a total estimated monetary value of **\$941,425**.

While measuring value in dollars gives us a sense of understanding the dedication of our volunteers, no dollar amount can honor the impact their efforts have made on our community. On behalf of the community, we would like to thank our current and past volunteers for helping the ywca keep children safer.



# what we accomplished in 2010



## 532 people reached through eliminating racism workshops

The **Social Change Program** is dedicated to preventing racism and other forms of oppression in our community through education, services, and programs. We offer workshops and discussion groups year-round, creating amazing opportunities for growth in Clark County. Visits to area schools and award programs engage youth in the social change discussion, and inspire respectful school environments.

## 1,292 contacts with incarcerated women

The **WORTH Program** relies on caring volunteers, community resources, and referrals to provide encouragement and support to women in the Clark County Jail. Volunteers provide educational workshops during weekly visits to the facility.

## 803 children represented

**Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)** are volunteers who speak up for neglected, abused, or abandoned children through the **Clark County CASA Program**, a national program administered for our county through the **ywca clark county**.



**Having an advocate has** been so helpful to my daughter. She had someone that she knew was on her side through everything. This was a really hard process for her and for our family and it was nice to see a consistent, friendly face; someone to answer our questions and help us deal with all of the fear associated with the legal system. It has been a long road, and I am glad that my daughter had someone there for her every step of the way to reassure her and make this whole nightmare more bearable.

Anonymous Mother



**ADCO is proud to support the efforts of ywca clark county because we feel it's important to back programs that can enhance the lives of people and help them to become valuable members of the local community."**

Ed Piel  
Owner, ADCO

## 78 children served

We aspire to make a positive impact in our community by providing high-quality preschool education to low income, transitioning, or homeless families through our **Y's Care Children's Program**. Children ages 2½ to 5 are welcome in our program that provides a nurturing environment and year-round open enrollment for up to 20 children.

## 130 foster youth served

The **Independent Living Skills (ILS) Program** assists youth and young adults as they successfully transition from state-supported care to independent living within our community. We provide education, resources, and one-on-one coaching that allows program participants to define and achieve their goals.

# what we accomplished in 2010



## 6,471 people supported

Our **Sexual Assault Program** provides 24-hour legal, medical, and emotional support to victims of sexual assault and their families. We also offer advocacy, group sessions, counseling, community outreach, and education opportunities.

## 53,418 individual contacts with program participants affected by domestic violence

The **SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program** provides advocacy, education, shelter, and support for those affected by domestic violence. We strive to collaborate with our community partners to present the most helpful resources, information, and education about domestic violence. With multiple services and offerings, and staff in four different locations, our reach is wide.

## 6,840 youth reached with dating violence prevention and education

Both the **Sexual Assault Program** and **SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program** have ancillary programs that reach out to youth through high school health classes and area teen groups. Presentations last anywhere from 1-2 hours and cover topics such as violence in our communities, recognizing warning signs, and understanding how to break the cycle of violence. We also cover healthy relationships, and how to help peers encountering violence in their lives. Especially effective have been efforts to relate to youth with discussions on the portrayal of violence in the media. The **ywca** looks forward to expanding efforts on violence prevention and education.



**I will remember** the intimacy talk. It was kind of uncomfortable to talk about, but I learned that it is necessary in a relationship to let your partner know your expectations and your limits. I also learned that the media plays a big role in what we think a relationship should look like. I think that this information was very worthwhile. Teenagers, and really everyone, should know about this so they can be prepared to have healthy relationships.

Anonymous High School Student



# inspirational women

Our giving levels are named for a group of amazing and historic women from the area. These are just a few of the women who've inspired us. Who inspires you?

## Esther Short (1806-1862)

Mother of eight (or ten), and wife of Amos, Esther was a woman who stood her ground. Amos laid claim to a large part of land north of present day Fort Vancouver. The Shorts experienced numerous property conflicts with the British at Hudson's Bay. Despite intense efforts to rid the family, they remained standing. Esther helped build Vancouver, and later donated all the land to the City. A likeness of her stands proud at the north end of Esther Short Park.

## Ilchee "Moon Woman" (1800-?)

With the power of a Shaman and the skills of a chief, Ilchee was the favorite daughter of Chinook Chief Comcomly. When a Scotsman from the Astor Fur Trading Company asked for her hand, Comcomly conceded, but not without a substantial dowry. As a result, relations between the groups improved. When the Scotsman returned to Europe, Ilchee married Casino, a Chief in the Vancouver area. Later, he threatened to kill her, but she survived and later returned to her Chinook tribe. Pictured below is a statue of her which stands on the east end of the boardwalk in Vancouver.



## Mother Joseph (1823-1902)

At age 33, Mother Joseph was selected to lead a group of missionaries into the northwest from Canada. During her time here, she was responsible for the creation of eleven hospitals, seven academies, five schools, and two orphanages. She designed some of the buildings, raised money for their implementation, and supervised construction. In Vancouver, her legacy lives on in The Academy and at Southwest Washington Medical Center.

## Sarah Winnemucca (1844-1891)

Daughter of Paiute Indian chiefs, Sarah was later named chief in her own right. Pictured in the upper corner of the page, Sarah spent her adult years calling public attention to the treatment of Indians under US government policies, and lobbying Congress to improve conditions on the reservation they were forced to occupy. She wrote extensively and traveled, lecturing on the difficult situation facing the Indian nations. As a result, Congress approved a grant of land in Nevada for Indian use.

## Louisa Wright (1862-1913)

Louisa was the first doctor in Clark County to have a medical degree and a license to practice. She graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1885. Louisa rose above the stereotypical definitions of her time, and was able to get involved in the community in a way that no other woman had done before. Her story was and is an inspiration to young females eager to rise above societal expectations.

## Ella Wintler (1885-1975)

A native to Vancouver, Wintler was known as a dedicated and outspoken woman. She



graduated from the University of Washington in 1910 and taught at a number of area schools until 1950. In 1938, she was elected to the House of Representatives where she served off and on for 20 years. She received honors from Presidents Eisenhower and Nixon, and Albert Rossellini, Governor of Washington.

## Eva Santee (1897-1979)

Eva was hired as a librarian at the Camas Library in 1932, and at Vancouver Public Library in 1940. She initiated the bookmobile service, which continues to provide library services for rural areas of Clark County. She was instrumental in founding the Fort Vancouver Regional Library System, and in 1945 became the first woman to be named First Citizen by The Community Foundation. Eva was active in numerous local organizations and her dedication is still evident in the community.

## Gretchen Fraser (1919-1994)

This Washingtonian earned numerous ski awards. During WWII, she made military training films and helped rehabilitate wounded and disabled veterans through skiing. She won silver and gold medals at the 1948 Olympics, becoming the first American ever to win a gold medal for skiing. Fraser continued her work with disabled skiers. She's a role model for aspiring female skiers and service oriented athletes.



# thank you

## esther short \$10,000 +

Classic Wines Auction, Inc.  
Norma Thompson Estate  
Anonymous  
Connie & Lee Kearney  
Jan & Steve Oliva  
Providence Health & Services  
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Terry Murphy & Ron Fredrickson  
National CASA Organization  
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Joyce & Charles Carter

## ilchee "moon woman" \$5,000 – 9,999

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## louisa wright \$500 – 999

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Vancouver Education Association, Inc.  
Vancouver Emblem Club #473  
Keith Wallace  
Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence  
Brienne & Daniel Wright

# thank you

## ella wintler \$250 – 499

Debbie & Jon Abraham  
Kathleen Albrici  
Atlas Spinal Care  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
Peggy Bishop-Ackley  
Katie & Erik Bjerkmann  
Julie Blomdahl  
Tom Borkus  
CASA for Children  
Stephen Dawson  
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Susanne Forhan  
Tori Fornaciari & Julia Olsen

Donors listed represent cash gifts for fiscal year 09-10. We make every effort to provide an accurate listing.



# thank you

Fort Vancouver Regional Library  
Foundation  
Merilee Frels  
Jeniece Fridell  
Linda Frischmeyer  
Vanessa Gaston  
General Federation of Women's Clubs - Silver Gavel Club  
Opal Gerwig & Umesh Umesh  
Roberta Giovannini  
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# casa is keeping children safer

## Jenny's journey through foster care

Seven year old Jenny\* was physically abused and neglected by her mother while her father's whereabouts were unknown. She was not fed regularly. She was beaten. She was deprived of appropriate clothing. Her mother kept her out of school and away from medical care so that she became socially and developmentally deprived.

The little girl's case came to the attention of Child Protective Services and the courts, and she was taken into foster care while a dependency petition was filed on her behalf. That's when CASA stepped in. The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program at **ywca clark county** was appointed by the judge to represent Jenny's best interests. Nancy Spangle, a CASA volunteer, agreed to take Jenny's case and soon became the one person that Jenny could count on.

Jenny was placed with an aunt even though complete background checks were still pending. The state social worker did not have time to visit the relative's home or to see Jenny at school and day care, but her CASA volunteer, Nancy, did. Nancy visited the home (both announced and drop-in) and had lunch at school with Jenny. She followed up to ensure that her aunt was providing the medical and dental care that was so needed. What she discovered concerned her greatly.

It soon became evident that Jenny was also being abused by her aunt. When Jenny came home from school and day care, she was sent to a locked room without adequate food or regular access to bathroom facilities. She wasn't allowed to play with other children, or even play outside. Her medical and dental needs were not



being met, and her aunt wasn't keeping appointments for Jenny.

With help from her CASA Supervisor, Kristen, Nancy was able to advocate to the court on Jenny's behalf. The court considered all of Nancy's thorough documentation and listened carefully to her recommendations. Jenny was quickly removed from her aunt's home and away from the abuse. Because of Nancy's diligence and commitment to keeping children safer, Jenny is now living with a great foster family where she is not only surviving, but thriving.

Nancy Spangle is one example of **ywca's** amazing volunteers who continually dedicate time and energy to the community through **ywca clark county** services.

\*name has been changed to protect the individual's privacy

“  
**Representing a child in court lets them know someone cares about their future and well-being. We speak only for them, directly to the judge, about their issues and concerns. We are their voice in court.**  
Nancy Spangle  
CASA volunteer since 2004

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