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eliminating racism empowering women

ywca

July 2010

YWCA Membership Now Accepted Online!

Many YWCA Anchorage members have asked if they can make payments online and we are so excited to be able to do so today! Your support allows YWCA Anchorage to provide all of the wonderful programs dedicated to our mission, *eliminating racism empowering women*, some of which are shared in the stories below. Every donation is vital because about 50% of YWCA's annual budget comes from philanthropic contributions from members. We can't thank you enough for all that you do. **If you would like to renew your membership or make a donation today, [click here](#).** Please note that we are updating the "get involved" page. If you want to pay online, go to the donation button at the bottom of the page. If you don't want to pay online, click on the become a member box. If you don't know if your membership is current, please call Darlena at 644-9605 or e-mail her at dfritzler@ywcaak.org.

Two African Stores Opened by YWCA Program Alumnae



Caren and Umal at Juba Halal Market

Two Anchorage women opened stores offering African products after taking classes from YWCA Women\$Finances. The stores opened in response to demand from the ever-expanding African community in Anchorage. Please visit their stores and support women-owned businesses!

Juba Halal Market on Northern Lights (owner operator Umal Samatar from Somalia) and the Quality Tropical and African Store on Boniface Parkway (owner operator Delphine Atu-Tetuh from Cameroon) both sell African food, clothing, beauty, and home products. Samatar and Atu-Tetuh were students of YWCA Anchorage's BrassTacks@Business Basics Class. Their biggest barriers to growing their business today are shipping costs and finding a commercial kitchen to prepare African meats and dishes. Caren Alleo, YWCA Women\$Finances Director, is working with the clients to find solutions to their barriers. If you have any ideas or suggestions to help, please contact Caren at 644-9611 or caalleo@ywcaak.org.



Caren and Delphine at Quality Tropical and African Store

YWCA Client House Fire - Call for gift cards for the family...

Support is needed for one of the families YWCA serves through our [Lend A Helping Hand Project](#) whose home was devastated by an electrical fire on July 8th. Providence Cancer Center has started a Christmas in July Drive to obtain household goods and clothing for the entire family. The response has already been very positive.

Please consider donating a gift card to places like Fred Meyers, Wal-Mart, Sears, Carrs/Safeway, Target and/or JCPenney. Every bit helps and thank you for helping us respond as a caring community and good neighbors. These cards will be given directly to the family. Please drop the cards off at the YWCA Anchorage office at 324 E 5th Ave, or call Alicia at 644-9624, to arrange pick up.

The lower level of the house experienced extensive smoke damage. No one was injured, but the family lost personal belongings including the children's dressers, bedding and linens, winter clothing, pantry and storage. There is extensive water damage. The electricity being shut off resulted in a loss of all their food in the freezer and refrigerator. The house is insured, but the family has very limited funds to help replace personal items and cover the \$500 insurance deductible. This family of eight is headed by a single mother, a cancer patient, who recently lost her job.

Cancer Clinical Trial Participation in Alaska Easier Due to Alaska State Law Sponsored by YWCA Member Sen. Bettye Davis

Senate Bill 10 regarding cancer clinical trials is now Alaska state law thanks to years of work by American Cancer Society advocates and sponsor Senator Bettye Davis, member of the first YWCA Anchorage Board and Woman of Achievement Alumna! This law requires all state-regulated insurance plans to cover routine patient care costs for anyone taking part in a cancer clinical trial, effectively removing a huge barrier for involvement in trials.

Cancer clinical trials may give a patient the best odds in beating cancer and increased participation leads to advances in research that benefit everyone. This new law includes coverage for the full range of trials including prevention, early detection, treatment, and palliative care so cancer survivors may now participate in clinical trials without fear of losing coverage. The law goes into effect September 29, 2010.

Please feel free to thank Senator Davis for her participation in passing this law by e-mailing her at Senator.Bettye.Davis@legis.state.ak.us

Transgender Women Tell Life Stories At YWCA Opening Minds & Hearts Luncheon

Audience members laughed, cried and cheered as transgender women and the mother of a transgender child shared their experiences in the Anchorage community at YWCA Anchorage's June 16th Opening Minds and Hearts forum.



Anja, editor of www.transpipeline.com, moderated the forum.

All of the stories were powerful. One speaker, a pilot, talked about how she lived as a woman 50% of the time when she was flying but when she came home to her wife and children she took on the male role in the household. When she confided in her wife that she was transgender a court battle over custody of the children immediately ensued. While in the process of her transition her company grounded her from flying. The mother of a transgender child talked about how many hoops she had to jump through just to get permission for her child to use the appropriate restroom. Many questions were raised and answered.

YWCA Anchorage is proud to have hosted this program and remains dedicated to being an organization that serves *all* women. For more information about what transgender is, [click here](#). For local transgender resources go to identitvnc.org or www.transpipeline.com.

Upcoming Opening Minds & Hearts Luncheons: Teens Talk about Teen Pregnancy - August 13, 2010 Latina Women - September 23, 2010

Lunch \$15 or \$12 for students with current ID. Seating is limited so RSVPs are required. Please call Darlena at 644-9605 or e-mail dfritzler@ywcaak.org to RSVP. These OMAH forums are scheduled to be at YWCA Anchorage, 324 E. 5th Avenue, but please check our website to confirm dates and locations www.ywcaak.org

2010 Young People of Achievement Awards April 23, 2010

You would be proud of the ten youth honored with 2010 Young People of Achievement Awards. YWCA is!



Their efforts to empower women and eliminate racism, despite facing struggles in their own lives, are inspirational; one is reaching out to pregnant teens because she had a miscarriage during her hidden pregnancy due to lack of prenatal care; another male JROTC member mentored a female in the program and now she has a higher rank than he! All ten have incredible stories and you may read them all by [clicking here](#) or on their individual names below. Thanks to the support of the Alpha Lodge 1 and many other community sponsors, each young person received a \$500 award and a plaque. Congratulations to our 2010 awardees: [Jennifer Bird](#), [Elizabeth Brown](#), [Jennifer Cervantes-Barrios](#), [Joy Hurlburt](#), [Melody Kalmakoff](#), [Dahyeon Kim](#), [Shannon Lace](#), [Adam Moore](#), and [Trevor Trobough](#). The tenth awardee, Amber, is not pictured.

Multicultural Female Leadership Conference Celebrates 20th Anniversary!

An ethnically diverse group of middle school girls gathered at BP Energy Center on May 3, 2010, to learn about leadership for the 20th year in a row! YWCA board member Joy Green-Armstrong, a founder of YWCA's Multicultural Female Leadership Conference, was in attendance to greet the nearly 100 middle school girls who carry on the legacy of leadership in our community. While the conference has changed shape over the years, it still seeks to educate, empower, and inspire girls in our community to be leaders. We are grateful to the Soroptimists International of Cook Inlet for sponsoring the event, the Anchorage School District and all the volunteers who made the event possible through chaperoning, leading workshops, speaking, and sharing their talents.

Save the Dates Call for YWCA Women of Achievement Nominations

Nominations available September 1 at www.ywcaak.org or our offices. Nominations Deadline October 8.

YWCA Women of Achievement Induction Ceremony

BP-YWCA Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon
December 8, 2010, from 11:30 am - 1pm on the 3rd floor of the Dena'ina Center

YWCA Anchorage Purse Auction

December 8, 2010, from 10:30-11:30 in the lobby of the 3rd floor of the Dena'ina Center

Alaska Women's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

March 4, 2011, in the evening, more information to come

YWCA Power of Giving Luncheon

April 12, 2011, from 11:30am - 1pm, more information to come

Stand Against Racism

April 29, 2011, more information to come

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SAVE THE DATES

Thank You

Empowerment Circle!

Empowerment Circle Members are women who are personally dedicated to YWCA's mission of eliminating racism, empowering women and donate \$1000 or more each year.

- Eleanor Andrews
- Carla Beam
- Susan Behlke Foley
- Jacqueline Carr
- Suzanne Cherot
- Carol Comeau
- Louisiana Cutler
- Cornelia Devlin
- Leslie Ellis
- Heather Flynn
- Charlotte Fox
- Alice Galvin
- Joy Green-Armstrong
- Tina Grovier
- Shawn Hadley
- Aase Haugen
- Jana Hayenga
- Barbara Hood
- Paula Inman
- Pita Jelley Benz
- Carol Johnson
- Wendy King
- Christine Klein
- Krystal Kompkoff
- Noelle Kompkoff
- Betsy Lawer
- Gabrielle LeDoux
- Jo Michalski
- Kerri Morris
- Helen Morris
- Barbara Norton
- Kathleen O'Connell
- Bobbi Olson
- Connie Ozer
- Ann Parrish
- Becky Patterson - Turner
- Maggie Price
- Veronica Reem
- Robin Reich
- Frances Rose
- Mary Rosenzweig
- Mary Ellen Segelhorst
- Kate Slyker
- Alexandra Sonneborn
- Ivy Spohnholz
- Cathie Straub
- Barbara Symmes
- Mary Tesch
- Mary Tay Thomas
- Julie Vincek
- Jennifer Wagner
- Hope Wing