

ON A MISSION: AN UPDATE FOR YWCA SUPPORTERS



Greetings and Gratitude

The return to school can be an exciting time of year, although it also presents new challenges for the families in our programs to navigate: *Which school do your kids attend when you lose your housing? How do kids do their homework when you don't have a computer?*

In collaboration with the school district, we support families at The Meadowlark with things like enrolling in school, acquiring needed technology and supplies, and arranging bus transportation. This provides consistency for the kids and takes a huge burden off parents. We've also partnered with Boys and Girls Club to offer afterschool care. Children can participate in fun programs that promote social-emotional learning while their parents work, look for housing, or attend to other needs.

Today we have 50 children at The Meadowlark. They won't be with us very long, but our hope is that their stay here will feel safe and positive, and that their return to school this fall is as seamless as possible. With the right, needed support for kids and their families, this time in their lives can be a launching pad to a bright future.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Cindy Weese'.

Cindy Weese
Executive Director

What's New

Virtual Women's Justice Benefit Lunch-in

We invite you to watch our annual fundraiser, the Virtual Women's Justice Benefit Lunch-in. Learn how your support is needed to provide safe shelter, housing, and other critical services to women, children, and families in our community.

Premiering Tuesday, October 26th, noon-12:30 (MDT). Not available on the 26th? A recorded version will be available. [Register here!](#)

Thank you to our event sponsors: SMA, LLP., Clearwater Credit Union, Providence St. Patrick Hospital, and Blackfoot Communications.

Program Updates

Register for GUTS!

Registration is now open for GUTS! fall semester

groups! Weekly action groups give participants the chance to learn and practice leadership skills in their homes, schools and communities.

Fall 2021 groups will be held both in-person and online. Groups are open to 4th-12th grade girls and gender-diverse youth. Deadline to register is Sept. 20th.

[Register for virtual groups here](#). Email [Jess](#) with any questions.



Family Housing Center



All 25 rooms in the Family Housing Center are currently full, as well as several areas in our overflow sleeping area. Housing staff are working diligently to support families in getting their basic needs met and finding permanent housing. [Learn more about our housing programs](#).

Domestic Violence Shelter

Currently there are ten adults and five children staying at the Domestic Violence Shelter in The Meadowlark. This week, program staff were able to help a survivor reunite with her toddler-aged child and successfully transition into another community program that will allow her to continue with her goals.

[Learn more about our domestic and sexual violence services](#)

Fall Support Groups

The YWCA offers weekly support groups at The Meadowlark for women and gender-diverse individuals who have experienced all forms of abuse, control, manipulation or interpersonal violence. Groups meet each Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m., with support groups for children offered at the same time. Free dinner is also provided at 5:30 p.m. *Please arrive by 5:45 if attending group for the first time or bringing children with you.*

Questions? [Email Carol](#) or call 543-6691.

Get Involved

Become a GUTS! Mentor

The GUTS! Program is recruiting volunteers who are interested in facilitating weekly groups, both online and in-person, to girls and gender-diverse youth. Volunteers are trained in the GUTS! leadership curriculum and implement activities that provide youth an opportunity to explore their personal strengths, tackle common challenges, work on community projects, have fun, and be themselves! [Apply online here](#).

Volunteer at The Meadowlark Front Desk

We are looking for friendly and compassionate volunteers to greet residents, help direct phone callers and walk-in clients to appropriate services, and assist with various projects. Shifts are flexible and available during business hours.

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.

[View our program wish lists here](#)



Run or Walk to Support the YWCA at Diva Day 5K

Run Wild Missoula is donating 20% of race proceeds from their annual Diva Day 5K run/walk event to YWCA Missoula's Pathways Program!

Join us for Diva Day on September 26th. Click [here](#) to sign up for this fun event!

Employment Opportunities

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

- Family Housing Center Lead Overnight Advocate (full time)
- Family Housing Center Overnight Advocate (part time)
- Family Housing Center Weekend Advocate (part time, weekends)
- Pathways Overnight 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

