

## ON A MISSION: AN UPDATE FOR YWCA SUPPORTERS



### Greetings and Gratitude

Our volunteers and supporters are the heart of YWCA Missoula and a big part of why we are able to impact so many people every year. You are the reason we can be there any time someone walks through our doors-- whether because they've lost their housing, or are worried about a family member who is being abused, or are attending a support group for the first time.

[Volunteer advocate training](#) begins in a few weeks, and I encourage you to join us. It's one of the best ways to get involved in our work. Our volunteer advocates answer calls on the 24/7 crisis line, work with survivors at the domestic violence shelter, and support children who have witnessed abuse. The work of our volunteers has a lifelong impact on children and families.

Without our supporters, YWCA Missoula would not exist and many of our neighbors in crisis would have nowhere else to turn. Thank you for helping to create a safer, healthier community for everyone.

With gratitude,

Cindy Weese  
Executive Director

### What's New



#### MISSOULAGIVES

Join us for Missoula Gives **this Thursday- Friday, May 5-6**, and be part of a community-wide movement to give back. Donations made to YWCA Missoula through Missoula Gives will support our Pathways domestic and sexual violence programs. These funds help us provide clean and dignified rooms in our shelter, offer counseling and support groups, and provide many other critical services.

Thank you for your support! Donations of all amounts add up to have a big impact. [Give here](#), May 5-6.

### Supporter Appreciation Event: Save the Date for June 1!

YWCA Missoula is celebrating YOU! All donors, volunteers and friends are invited to join us for our annual Supporter Appreciation Event. Enjoy complimentary appetizers, music, and gathering in person once again! Please **RSVP by May 25th** to Alex, [astokman@ywcaofmissoula.org](mailto:astokman@ywcaofmissoula.org) or (406) 543-6691.

WHERE: Ten Spoon Winery, 4175 Rattlesnake Drive

WHEN: Wednesday, June 1st, 5:30-7 PM

# Program Updates

## GUTS! Summer Outdoor Adventures

Registration is now open for GUTS! summer camps! Week-long day camps are open to girls and gender-diverse youth entering grades 5-8. Tuition is offered on a sliding-fee scale. Each day of the week, the group will travel to different destinations around town via bike to experience a variety of outdoor and community activities. Along the way, our Summer Outdoor Adventures staff will lead GUTS! activities designed to help participants develop healthy relationships with themselves, their bodies, and their peers.



[Register for GUTS! Summer Adventures here](#)  
Email [Jess](#) with any questions.

## Abuse in Later Life Program

Six months ago, YWCA Missoula launched a program to serve people in later life who are being abused by a partner, family member or caregiver. Elder abuse is commonly misunderstood, overlooked, and underreported. The goals of our new program are to increase awareness of later in life abuse through community trainings and outreach and to provide crisis intervention and support to older individuals experiencing domestic or sexual violence or neglect.

If you or someone you know is experiencing elder abuse, call our 24/7 crisis line at 406-542-1944. You can also [email Angie](#) with questions about or referrals to our Abuse in Later Life program.

## Secret Seconds



Shop. Donate.  
**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



### Shop and Donate at Secret Seconds

Did you know that 100% of the net proceeds from Secret Seconds Thrift Stores subsidize *all* our programs? Shopping and donating your quality, gently used items to the store is a great way to support YWCA Missoula. Right now, **Secret Seconds is especially in need of housewares.**

Find Secret Seconds at 920 Kensington and 1136 W. Broadway. Open Tuesday- Saturday, 10 AM- 6 PM.

Follow Secret Seconds on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to learn about upcoming promotions and see the latest inventory.

## Who We Are

### Brittany Carr

Brittany Carr is the new Family Housing Center shelter coordinator. She has spent the last several years working with children and families in a variety of settings, and she will be graduating this spring with her Bachelor of Social Work degree. Brittany is passionate about the mission of the YWCA and believes that everyone deserves access to resources and opportunities to succeed. In her free time, Brittany enjoys spending time outdoors hiking, fishing, and exploring new places. Welcome, Brittany!



## Get Involved



### Become a Volunteer Advocate for Domestic & Sexual Violence Survivors

YWCA Missoula is looking for compassionate and **dedicated volunteers to support survivors** of domestic and sexual violence. You'll wear many different hats as an advocate: you'll answer the 24/7 crisis line, support survivors at our walk-in counseling center, and assist with therapeutic play activities for kids at the domestic violence shelter. Most of all, you will believe survivors, listen to their experiences, and empower them to re-build the lives they choose.

**Volunteer training begins May 16th** and

includes six training sessions. [Learn more here.](#)

[Email Alena](#) or call 543-6691 with questions.

### Tour The Meadowlark

Join us for an informational tour and learn about how the YWCA's programs benefit families, youth, and domestic violence survivors. **Light lunch provided upon request**

#### UPCOMING DATES:

Tuesday, May 10th, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 14th, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

*Limited space. Please [RSVP here](#) to confirm here to confirm availability and request lunch*

Questions? [Contact Diane.](#)

### 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.

- [Domestic Violence Shelter needs](#)
- [Family Housing Center needs](#)
- [Planet Kids needs](#)
- [Youth Services needs](#)

### Employment Opportunities

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

- Planet Kids Visit Monitor (part time)

- Development Coordinator (part time)
- Support Specialist (full time)
- Racial Equity and Justice Specialist (full time)
- Pathways Overnight Advocate (part time)
- Secret Seconds store clerks (part time/ full time)

[Find job descriptions and application instructions here](#)

YWCA Missoula | (406) 543-6691 | [www.ywcamissoula.org](http://www.ywcamissoula.org)

Crisis line: (406) 542-1944 or (800) 483-7858

STAY CONNECTED

