YWCA Metropolitan Chicago
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Connect with us
ywcachicago.org

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago created YShop in 2015 as a platform for consumers to “Purchase with Purpose™”. By shopping through YShop.org, you support local small businesses and national brands that are aligned to the YWCA’s mission and provide a portion of each sale back to the YWCA. Designed as a win-win-win for the consumer, YWCA Chicago and our partners, YShop and the organization’s other cause marketing activities have generated more than $400,000 for the YWCA in just three short years. The platform also gives us an opportunity to support and promote small businesses that come out of our Small Business Development Center (IL-SBDC).

With more than 100 items available on YShop, it’s a great place to do your holiday shopping!


“I stand on the sacrifices of a million women before me thinking what can I do to make this mountain taller so the women after me can see farther.” – Rupi Kaur

November 6, 2018 offers voters the opportunity to determine the legacy we will leave the next generation. After all, it was not until the 1960s that all women were safely afforded the right to cast their ballot. This right is not something we should take for granted.

By exercising our right to vote – by making our voices heard – we honor the sacrifices of the millions of women and allies across every generation of American history who fought so hard to provide us such a right. By voting, we honor the determination and bravery of activists like Sojourner Truth, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Ida B. Wells and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

These women, and many others, believed in the collective power of women to change the world. Their legacies have forever changed our lives, but there is still work to do. Economic gender inequalities still prevent women from becoming equal players in the marketplace. 10 million women are victims of domestic violence every year. Many women still cannot see over the horizon.

We have the power to define the country’s priorities for generations to come and create a future that values and respects all women.

This is your vote and our collective future. What legacy will you leave?

There’s still time to participate!

Leader Luncheon

▲ INVEST IN WOMEN

November 15, 2018

Outstanding Leader Honorees:

- Michelle L. Collins
- Melody Spann Cooper
- Noor Raheemullah Hasan
- Ximena N. Larkin
- Howard Tullman

Purchase tickets or table sponsorship at:
www.bit.ly/YWCALL18
As YWCA Metropolitan Chicago expands direct service opportunities that benefit women and families, we also seek to establish new revenue streams to support our critical work. Aligned to this strategy, the YWCA partnered with Impact Shares on the launch of a women’s empowerment exchange-traded fund, WOMN.

This is a first-of-its-kind exchange-traded fund, available on the New York Stock Exchange, comprised of 200 companies whose policies and practices align with the YWCA's vision of women’s empowerment and gender equality. The goal of the WOMN ETF is not only to have an impact that can be seen in portfolios, but one that has a ripple effect in the world around us. Because when women thrive, the stock of our entire society rises, too.

The launch of the WOMN ETF strengthens the YWCA’s position as a social enterprise, and demonstrates the innovative, transformative mindset YWCA Metropolitan Chicago brings relative to the nonprofit sector. WOMN is the latest innovation in a series of milestones, joining YShop, an e-commerce platform that offers a curated selection of goods and services, as well as Tiny Boots, which offers no cost child care for veterans during medical visits, job interviews or training programs.

The opportunity to partner with Impact Shares was identified by YWCA Metropolitan Chicago who is working with YWCA USA to engage with companies inside and outside the Index.

“We believe that the criteria used to evaluate the companies in the Index provides a roadmap for corporate America for the empowerment of the women in their workforces and will ultimately result in increased value creation for shareholders,” said Dorri McWhorter, CEO of YWCA Metropolitan Chicago.

With net advisory fees coming back to the YWCA, we’re leveraging the capital markets to further the YWCA's 160 year mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. Learn more at www.WOMNetf.org.

**Project HELP DuPage**

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago and Project HELP, a program of the Exchange Club of Naperville, merged in September 2017 in order to better serve the families of metropolitan Chicago. Project HELP provides home visiting, parent mentoring and parent educational workshops. The services aim to improve parents’ understanding of child development, increase their ability to identify and access services to meet their family’s basic needs, and reduce family stress. Through this alliance, Project HELP is able to leverage organizational resources, broaden services, have a greater impact on families in communities across Chicagoland and connect families with additional services offered by YWCA Metropolitan Chicago.

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is thrilled to add Project HELP’s evidence-based program to its service offerings. We are grateful to the Exchange Club of Naperville for their continued support to improve the lives of children and families in DuPage County and beyond.

**AGE + EXPERIENCE = SUCCESS**

Nationally, the unemployment rate is at a record low. Despite this recovery, Illinois lags behind the rest of the country at 4.3%. For African Americans in Illinois, the unemployment rate is over double the rate of the general US populations, registering at 9.1%. Women are disproportionately affected and women over 50 are often the most challenged.

Determined to change this outcome, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago’s Economic Empowerment Institute will launch a *FiftyPlus* program specifically designed to leverage the talents this population is able to offer to prospective employers. In partnership with YWCA San Francisco/ Marin County, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago will deliver specialized training and career coaching support.

*FiftyPlus* offers more than employment support; it fosters hope and inspiration in our clients as well as the broader community. There are so few programs that serve older adults, especially those that seek work. *FiftyPlus* targets women at an age when, with some support and guidance, they can continue to play a vital role in their families and communities. *FiftyPlus* offers mature women a safe place where they can build additional skills and connections in the marketplace. The program is scheduled to launch in January 2019.

Support these initiatives and more of the YWCA’s critical work with a tax-deductible contribution. Contribute online at www.ywcachicago.org/donate.