

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago
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\$9 MILLION GIFT FROM PHILANTHROPIST MACKENZIE SCOTT WILL CATALYZE GROWTH AND IMPACT!



This major gift was part of more than \$4 Billion in philanthropic contributions made by Ms. Scott last year. Ms. Scott's gift coincides with YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's growth capital campaign to raise \$50 Million to support critical investments in human capital, marketing, technology, program and service expansion, research and development, real estate and facilities, and financial security.

Looking to invest in organizations helping those most impacted by the pandemic crisis, Scott and her team of advisors *"took a data-driven approach to identifying organizations with strong leadership teams and results, with special attention to those operating in communities facing high projected food insecurity, high measures of racial inequity, high local poverty rates, and low access to philanthropic capital."*

Planning is underway to most effectively deploy the funds, including an enterprise-wide outcome measurement and data management project, technology upgrades, real estate investments, expansion of direct services and strategies to support organizational financial sustainability.

WE'RE HIRING!

Please encourage friends and family to explore available YWCA Metropolitan Chicago positions at <http://bit.ly/TeamYWCAChi>.



PURCHASE WITH PURPOSE

We can harness the powerful force of consumerism and use it to empower our local communities. Learn more today at YShop.org.

RACIAL JUSTICE LEAGUE DELIVERS ON PROMISE OF MULTI-LEVEL IMPACT!

Recognizing the critical need for racial justice, anti-racist policies, and partnerships to eliminate racism, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago launched the Racial Justice League in July 2020.

The Racial Justice League consists of individuals and organizations who take a pledge to advance racial justice, make a donation to support our work, and commit to taking specific, tangible actions. Under the campaign rallying cry of *Until Justice Just Is*, the initiative has attracted 36 corporate members and 192 individual members, and has generated over \$1.3 million. These funds have advanced our services for communities of color in the areas of food security, childcare assistance, mental health counseling, vaccine education and distribution, and workforce development.

"Paylocity is incredibly grateful for the partnership we have with the YWCA Racial Justice League. We recognize that the path to justice and equity for all is a journey, not a destination, and that road is paved with intentional and focused work. Our commitment to get the work done, along with the impact of that work, is made stronger with partners like the Racial Justice League and its members. Whether it is coming together to discuss the unique challenges we are facing as an organization, knowledge and experience sharing, or volunteerism...it is made more impactful, because we can do it together."

- Jamie Grasso, Director, Corporate Citizenship, Paylocity



**UNTIL
JUSTICE
JUST IS**



The Racial Justice League builds on the YWCA's century of work in direct services and policy advocacy to promote racial justice and personal empowerment. We offer members expert support and guidance to help them become effectively anti-racist, including regular convenings, discounted Inclusion Chicago services, and customized engagement. For more information, visit UntilJusticeJustIs.org.

WITH CHALLENGE COMES OPPORTUNITY



YWCA Metropolitan Chicago has been extremely busy in response to the pandemic. Thanks to a myriad of collaborations and generous support, we have been able to serve as a critical resource to thousands of individuals and families during this time.

Since March 2020, we've distributed more than 150,000 fresh meals across five YWCA locations, including our StreetWise Office (South Loop), Patterson and McDaniel Family Center (Addison), Roseland Center, Julian Grace Innovation and Technology Institute (North Lawndale), and Parks Francis Center (Woodlawn). And as a recipient of the Chicago COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, we have supported more than 1,500 constituents with more than \$550,000 in direct cash assistance, helping individuals and families cover expenses like housing, utilities, food, and PPE.

We also continue to provide crucial childcare, family, and counseling services. Our Early Childhood team quickly established a process to connect essential workers with available childcare. Home visiting staff now make weekly calls to families enrolled in Project HELP and our Young Parents Program, assessing critical needs and providing resources. Therapists who provide counseling services to survivors of sexual violence have transitioned to phone sessions, helping clients continue their healing journeys and address COVID-19-related concerns. In response to growing unemployment, our workforce development team has expanded career pathway training opportunities and has successfully prepared and connected dozens of men and women with high-growth, high-demand jobs.



The negative impacts of the pandemic are unfortunately not subsiding. Our staff are working determinedly to engage with our clients, assess their needs, and connect them with much-needed resources.

SAVE THE DATE!

2020 was a year like no other and YWCA Metropolitan Chicago invites you to join us for a unique, immersive, virtual Annual Meeting.

**2021 Annual Meeting:
With Challenge Comes Opportunity**
Tuesday, July 13
4:00 – 5:00 PM CST

<http://bit.ly/YWCACHI2021Meeting>

Leader Luncheon: Be the Change!
November 18, 2021

For sponsorship information, contact Molly Silverman at molly.silverman@ywcachicago.org.

IMPACT SPOTLIGHT



**Tiffany Williams, Founder
Exquisite Catering & Events**

If you have visited YWCA's Laura Parks and Mildred Francis Center over the past year during food distribution, you may have seen Woodlawn-native Tiffany Williams working her magic providing meals from Exquisite Catering and Events to residents of her neighborhood. Through grant support, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago has been able to provide Tiffany's catering business with \$135,000+ in contracts for the fresh meals distributed to the community. This proved critical to the sustainability of Exquisite after typical concert tour catering revenue waned.

Tiffany has also become a YWCA Small Business Development Center client and has opened Exquisite 501 Café at 501 East 61st Street, where she now employs a team of 11. The Café is currently open four days each week, and on the days the café is closed, she hosts a shared kitchen as an incubator to help startup restauranteurs. At Exquisite 501, she offers monthly classes to help food entrepreneurs complete requirements to become licensed for the City of Chicago like obtaining a sanitation certificate, insurance and a shared kitchen user license. After all she has done for others, as a personal victory, Tiffany was honored for Exquisite 501 to be the first Woodlawn restaurant ever featured during Chicago Restaurant Week this year.

Whether she's sharing culture through cuisine via pop-ups at Exquisite 501's food incubator or paying it forward by teaching about flavorful ways to prepare fresh produce, Tiffany's partnership with YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is benefitting the community by promoting food security and economic development.

EXPANSION TO LAKE COUNTY THROUGH TIMELY ACQUISITION

In February, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's merger with YWCA Lake County was finalized and we began our work to integrate the organizations and expand programming to the individuals and families of Lake County, Illinois. The merger will allow us to sustain and strengthen existing services like child care resource and referral and health and wellness programs and also bring new programming to Lake County, including child care provider support, workforce development, mental health, and workplace diversity, equity and inclusion services.

Over the past seven years, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago has transformed from a traditional social service organization to a 21st Century social enterprise committed to building a marketplace where everyone can thrive. Key to the organization's transformation has been work across the enterprise and the nonprofit sector to create efficiencies, improve access to services and deepen impact through expansion of programs. Some of the programmatic expansion has come through acquisition and strategic integration of other direct service and policy organizations including Project HELP, Voices for Illinois Children, StreetWise, Partners in Community Building, and most recently, YWCA Lake County.

Since embarking on this transformation, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's operating budget has grown from \$10.5 million in 2013 to an expected \$35 million in 2021 and allowed us to grow our impact by serving more individuals and providing more comprehensive support.

**SUPPORT OUR CONTINUED GROWTH AND IMPACT BY MAKING
A CONTRIBUTION AT YWCACHICAGO.ORG/DONATE.**