

eliminating racism empowering women

ywca news release

YWCA of Kalamazoo
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YWCA OF KALAMAZOO ANNOUNCES CALL FOR 2015 YWCA WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATIONS

January 14, 2015

2015 marks the **31st annual YWCA Women of Achievement Awards Celebration**, which will be held on **Tuesday, May 12, 2015** at the Radisson Plaza Hotel, Downtown Kalamazoo. The YWCA invites the community to nominate outstanding women who have made enduring contributions to the social, cultural, family, economic, educational, or political well-being of our community. **Deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, March 6, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.** Nomination Forms may be downloaded from the YWCA Website at www.ywcakalamazoo.org or picked up at the YWCA, 353 E. Michigan Avenue beginning January 14th. Please call Kellie Swikoski, Development Coordinator at 269-345-5595, or email kswikoski@ywcakalamazoo.org for more information.

The YWCA of Kalamazoo has a rich history of honoring noteworthy area women and their accomplishments. Awardees are selected from nominations from the community. A Selection Committee of individuals from our community will choose the YWCA Women of Achievement Award recipients from the greater Kalamazoo area. The YWCA is seeking community nominations in the following categories:

- *YWCA Women of Achievement*
- *YWCA Lifetime Women of Achievement*

The nomination form suggests a number of areas of accomplishment in which there may be women who deserve recognition. The Selection Committee will make determinations from the nominations that are received as to whether a nominee should be recognized for their overall contributions to the community as a Woman of Achievement. In addition, a YWCA Lifetime Woman of Achievement recipient may be determined from the nominations, to be awarded to a woman who has demonstrated a lifetime of leadership.

About the YWCA

The YWCA of the USA, of which the YWCA of Kalamazoo is a member Association, is the oldest, largest autonomous women's membership organization in the world. YWCA Kalamazoo is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The YWCA of Kalamazoo, the oldest Association in Michigan, was founded in 1885 and began as a residence service provider to young women who gravitated to the city to work in its factories. Today, the YWCA provides the only shelter, crisis intervention services and an array of post crisis shelter supportive housing options specifically designed and operating for victims of domestic violence and their dependent children; the only services of our kind for adult sexual assault survivors, including medical forensic exams in a non-hospital setting, supportive volunteers and counseling; one of very few licensed and nationally accredited child care centers that both offers tuition assistance and accepts government subsidies; and services to the community-at-large, focusing on racial justice.

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