

eliminating racism empowering women

ywca press release

YWCA of Kalamazoo Michigan
353 E. Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

T: 269-345-5595
F: 269-345-8230
www.ywcakalamazoo.org

YWCA OF KALAMAZOO ANNOUNCES GRANT FROM VOCA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The YWCA of Kalamazoo is pleased to announce receipt of a \$131,798 grant award from the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to provide a variety of services for victims of domestic and sexual assault. The Crime Victim Assistance Grant is funded by the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission (CVA#20150140-00).

The YWCA is in its thirty-eighth year of providing services to domestic violence victims and their dependent children, and it has received support for victim services from VOCA for the past twenty-nine (29) years. These services include shelter, counseling, and criminal justice and other advocacy services for victims and a 24-hour crisis line. These services are available to all victims and can be accessed by calling either the crisis line at (269) 385-3587 or the business line at (269) 385-2869.

The YWCA is in its thirty-ninth year of providing services to sexual assault victims, and it has received support for victim services from VOCA for the past twenty-three (23) years. The YWCA provides a continuum of services from crisis intervention to ongoing support for adolescent and adult victims of sexual assault to assist them in their recovery. For the past ten years, the YWCA has run a successful Nurse Examiners Component, which offers service delivery to rape victims/survivors through forensic examination done in a non-hospital environment. Staff coordinates services with other community agencies, including medical personnel, law enforcement, and the Kalamazoo County Prosecutor's Office. These services are available to all victims and can be accessed by calling the 24-hour crisis line at (269) 385-3587 or the business line at (269) 385-2869.

For more information, please contact the YWCA at (269) 345-5595.

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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Contact Information

Grace Lubwama, CEO
T: 269-345-5595
glubwama@ywcakalamazoo.org