YWCA Charleston continues to house and serve more than 100 clients at Sojourner’s Shelter for Homeless Women & Families, Resolve Family Abuse Program’s Hope House, the Alicia McCormick Transitional Housing for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking and sexual assault, the Shanklin Center for Senior Enrichment and the Empowerment Homes for chronically homeless women during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“During these unprecedented times, we continue to shelter and provide critical services to homeless women and families, crisis support and shelter to victims of domestic violence and continue advocacy for all clients. We are profoundly grateful to the community who continues to make donations of vital funds, cleaning supplies and food. We deeply appreciate the YWCA staff members who are dedicated to providing essential services during such challenging conditions while deploying CDC best practices,” said Debby Weinstein, YWCA Charleston CEO.

All programs are in need of sanitation and hygiene products such as toilet paper, paper towels, bleach, spray disinfectant, fresh foods and non-perishable food items. Donations for Sojourner’s Shelter for Homeless Women & Families may be delivered directly to Sojourner’s Shelter at 1418 Washington Street East Charleston, WV 25301. The YWCA is asking for those making donations to call 304.340.3562 to arrange for a staff member to come to your car at the curb.

Other program-designated donations of essential cleaning products and non-perishable food items may be delivered to the YWCA Charleston Administrative offices located at 1426 Kanawha Boulevard, East during the hours of 8:30-4:30 Monday through Friday. A staff member will gladly come to your car or you may bring donations to the porch and we will maintain safe social distance.

The YWCA Charleston is taking the CDC recommended precautions to monitor the health of everyone at our programs and regularly sanitize all of facilities as we support our community’s most vulnerable citizens.

To stay up to date on current needs and efforts, follow us on Facebook @ywcacharleston or check our website at ywcacharleston.org.
KICK CABIN FEVER FOR A CAUSE!
Join us for our virtual Race to End Racism
April 11-25, 2020

REGISTER
Enter our virtual 5K Run or 1 Mile Walk to bring the community together to celebrate our diversity!

VIRTUAL RACE
APRIL 11-25
You have two weeks to complete your 5K run or 1 Mile walk on the atlasGO app.

CELEBRATE
MAY 2020
We celebrate our Virtual Race and Impact digitally and present the winners of the raffle.

All proceeds benefit the YWCA Racial Justice Program

Racial Justice Program Highlights
To date, the YWCA Racial Justice Program has provided Implicit Bias Training to more than 500 individuals through local organizations, businesses and religious institutions such as Mountain State Justice, WELD, Charleston Area Alliance, Generation Charleston and others. We also have trained ALL Kanawha County School Principals, Curriculum Vice Principals and Vice Principals.

We have presented at community engagement events in partnership with West Virginia State University and WV Center for African American Arts and Culture. We held 4 Conversation Cafés on a variety of topics in 2019 including “The Importance of Black History,” and “Native American Heritage in West Virginia.”

These efforts are guided by our Racial Justice Committee, which is comprised of members of diverse faiths, ethnicities, races, ages, socio-economic statuses and professions. We work with a broad spectrum of partners in the community to address the ways racism is tearing the fabric of our families and communities.

Kitty Dooley, Racial Justice Program Committee Co-Chair, conducting a YWCA Implicit Bias Training at Charleston Area Alliance Lunch and Learn in January 2020.
Some volunteers come into our organization at exactly the right time. Bob Pepper, who retired from NGK Spark Plugs, USA as the Senior Vice President of Manufacturing, is the right man for these challenging times at YWCA Charleston. Although Bob works as a consultant, he generously spends a lot of time volunteering for YWCA Charleston in many capacities. Bob is a Read Aloud West Virginia volunteer for Sojourner’s Shelter for Homeless Women & Families and at Mel Wolf Child Development Center. The children at both programs look forward to the great stories he brings to life.

Bob is passionate about racial and social justice, so it is no surprise he is a member of the YWCA Racial Justice Endowment Campaign Committee and the Racial Justice Program Committee. He is also a very committed member of a team of facilitators for the Racial Justice Implicit Bias Training. Thanks to that team, the YWCA has trained more than 500 individuals throughout the community!

Most recently, Bob has stepped up to help manage our supply chain for cleaning and hygiene products to keep our facilities in order during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We appreciate all of the help Bob provides to YWCA Charleston. He is tireless and always pitches in with a smile on his face!
Leaders for Change corporate sponsorship sustains YWCA Charleston so that we can continue to serve the most vulnerable in our communities. Together, we work to promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

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