JOIN THE TAPESTRY ALLIANCE & MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY

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"The work of eliminating racism is an everyday, all year kind of work."

Theresa Lyons CEO
Greetings,

We hope you're healthy and well these days!

The Annual Stand Against Racism Initiative is held every year during the month of April. This initiative raises awareness and heralds a call to action to be intentional in our commitment to ensure dignity for all peoples. YWCA Alaska, with YWCA's across the nation, launched campaigns and offered programs to educate and inform members of our communities about the reality of racism and its impact on our neighbors, our systems, and our policies.

In this spirit, we co-sponsored a panel discussion with the Anchorage Public Library on Race and Policing. It was a very candid conversation with our Police Chief and community members about policing in Anchorage and the people they serve.

We also hosted a youth seminar on Health, Equity, and STEM Careers to talk about the opportunities in STEM and the importance of equity. The line-up of presenters was stellar and their stories inspired us!

"...be intentional in our commitment to ensure dignity for all peoples."

The work of eliminating racism is an everyday, all year kind of work. Take the pledge with us to Stand Against Racism everyday. The health and well-being of our communities require it.

Sincerely

Theresa Lyons
CEO
Board of Directors: New Members

Welcome YWCA Alaska’s new board members, Kelsey Rising and Jennifer Tungul.

New Board Members

Jennifer Tungul
Director
Alaska Terminal Operations
Matson

Kelsey Rising
Associate Financial Advisor
APCM Wealth Management

Youth Nominations Now Open!

Nominations are now open for outstanding young ladies making a difference in their community who have overcome obstacles throughout their journey. Nominate a high school student making a difference in her community today!

Nominate Here

Have Questions?
Contact: Jessie Lavoie
jlavoie@alaskacf.org
Hello YWCA Alaska Community! I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Ian Murakami (he/him) and I serve as the new Social Justice Program Coordinator here at the YWCA of Alaska. I am originally from Honolulu, Hawai’i and I come to Anchorage from Washington, D.C. I graduated from Georgetown University with a B.A. in Government and minors in Justice and Peace Studies and Sociology. I joined the YWCA through Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest (JVC Northwest,) an AmeriCorps-affiliated service organization that matches recent college graduates with nonprofits in the region.

I hope to strengthen and expand the YWCA’s social justice programming through Diversity, Land Acknowledgement, and other Workshops. I am excited and eager to start this position and do what I can to support the YWCA’s Mission. If you have any questions, send me a message at imurakami@ywcaak.org

An Alaska Humanities Forum Program:
Conversations Across Generations (CxG) is an 8-week-long transformative journey consisting of intergenerational conversations around racial equity, history, and identity in Alaska. Beginning in early September, 16 peers in the greater Anchorage bowl will explore the question: What does racial equity demand of us?

The CxG program begins September 11th —October 23rd. We are delighted that YWCA’s CEO and Jesuit Volunteer will participate in these conversations.

Thank you Alaska Humanities Forum for providing this opportunity to the Anchorage community.
Diversity workshops will be starting again Fall of 2021, between the months of September through November. There are a total of three diversity workshops, Implicit Bias, Microaggression, and Anti-Racism & Whiteness. All workshops will be Virtual (Zoom) at 3:00-5:00 pm.

**Diversity Workshops**

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**Workshop Facilitator:**
Dr. Glenn is a collaborative leader with more than 25 years of higher education experience. She has been focused on leading diversity and inclusion initiatives for the last 20 years.

**Diversity workshops:**

- **Implicit Bias Workshop**
  - September 16, 2021 - [Register Here](#)
  - October 28, 2021 - [Register Here](#)

- **Microaggression Workshop**
  - September 28, 2021 - [Register Here](#)
  - November 9, 2021 - [Register Here](#)

- **Anti-racism & Whiteness Workshop**
  - October 12, 2021 - [Register Here](#)
  - November 23, 2021 - [Register Here](#)

**Have questions?** Contact our Social Justice Coordinator, Ian Murakami at imurakami@ywcaak.org
YWCA Alaska, in partnership with the University of Alaska’s TRIO Upward Bound (UB) Program, provided summer internship opportunities for youth.

TRIO UB is a federally funded grant program that serves 120 students who will be the first in their families to attend college. Students range from Freshmen through Seniors, and attend Bartlett and West High Schools. As participants of the UB program, students work with Educational Advisors at their area school throughout their time in high school and are mentored in preparation for access to post-secondary education. The TRIO Upward Bound Program is led by Director Kaitlin DeMarcus.

YWCA Alaska served as a virtual internship site for students between June 2 –July 2, 2021.

Students had an opportunity to:
- Learn about YWCA Alaska
- Experience workplace culture and learn about career opportunities
- Develop leadership, teamwork, and professionalism
- Complete an assigned team project

Projects completed by the interns:
- Facilitated 3 Panel Discussions regarding Careers with YW Staff, Board of Directors, and Community Members
- Created Youth Education for Health and Wellness
- Created Youth Education for Eliminating Racism
- Facilitated a Story Circle on Zoom: Youth and Mental Health

Social Justice Workshop
YWCA Alaska CEO, Theresa Lyons facilitated an Implicit Bias Workshop for Anchorage Youth Court during their Law & Leadership Camp. This workshop took place on August 4, 2021 at Kincaid Park.
Women's Leadership

**Fearless Females**

YWCA Alaska CEO, Theresa Lyons, was one of the four panelist at the Fearless Females: Women's Leadership Panel 2021, hosted by the American Marketing Association Alaska (AMA Alaska). This virtual event was held on Thursday, May 13, 2021. The discussion highlighted Alaskan female business and community leaders.

The four panelist were Kate Slyker, Karen King, Sophie Minch, and Theresa Lyons. Listen to these four women answer questions that Alice Qannik Glenn, Moderator, asked about their personal experience within leadership roles and what they learned along the way.

**Recorded Event:** [LINK HERE](#)  
**Access Code:** @469q$LL

**20-Something Mentorship Project**

YWCA Alaska CEO, Theresa Lyons, is serving as one of the mentors for the Women’s Power League of Alaska (WPLAK) 2021 20-Something Mentorship Project. The Women’s Power League is a network of Alaskans united for the purpose of strengthening our state’s economy through the empowerment of women. They advocate for inclusion, civic engagement, philanthropy, community service, activism and sisterhood.

The 20-Something Mentorship Project connects industry leaders and established professionals with mentees (ages 20-29) as an effort to further develop the next generation of Alaskan leaders. This project has a total of 21 Mentors participating year.
YWCA Alaska is partnered with Zonta Club of Anchorage, an organization focused on empowering women through service and advocacy! Jenella Morales, Women Wellness Outreach Specialist, has been sharing information about our Women Wellness Program throughout Anchorage.

YWCA Alaska participated in the Back-to-School Health and Safety Fair, an opportunity where Anchorage students and their families could obtain everything they need for this upcoming school year. This event was held on August 13 & 14, at the Anchorage Fairview Rec Center. Jenella and two volunteers, Ian and Yessenia, handed out supplies to students and talked with families about Women's Wellness. They informed our Anchorage families about the many programs YWCA Alaska has to offer and how they can get involved.

Have questions? Contact Jenella Morales at jmorales@ywcaak.org
In partnership with Anchorage Public Library, YWCA Alaska has relaunched the bi-weekly Job Lab series. This series is scheduled to go from August - October 2021.

Job Lab is designed to help with:
- Job search resources
- Professionalism
- Worker's rights

Dalecia Young, YWCA Economic Empowerment Program Specialist, will be at the Mountain View Branch every other Wednesdays from 2-5 pm. Visit our Calendar for exact dates.

Have questions? Contact Dalecia Young at dyoung@ywcaak.org.

Women's Empowerment 360
YWCA Alaska is partnering with @Ureeka.biz, an online community dedicated to helping Entrepreneurs build their own businesses!

We will be hosting our Women’s Empowerment 360° (WE360) Business Essentials program on the Ureeka platform, where participants will get the added live support of professional coaches, mentors and an entire community of entrepreneurs.

Virtual information sessions are hosted weekly on Tuesday's 6-7 pm.
Membership in YWCA Alaska is the opportunity to be a part of something bigger than yourself. It’s an answer to the call to do more for others, to foster the "Beloved Community", to give today to ensure a better tomorrow. You can make a difference.

The way to make the biggest impact is to join the tapestry alliance, our monthly giving plan. Allies are donors who give monthly – they’re so important to our success they’re woven into the fabric of our organization – our tapestry. In these unpresented times, monthly donations allow us to do our best to plan for the future and lift up all women.

We believe it's possible and we need your help to create safe spaces and good experiences for all Alaskans.

Thank you for caring and being concerned, and for wanting to improve our community. Become a member, an ally, today and make a difference!

Text DONATE to 844-405-1858
VIEW OUR WEBSITE CALENDAR HERE

DONATE TODAY CLICK HERE

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