



eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

Central Maine

2025 Annual Report

At YWCA, we are eliminating racism and empowering women. We will get up and do the work until injustice is rooted out, until institutions are transformed, until the world sees women, girls, and people of color the way we do:

Equal. Powerful. Unstoppable.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Holly Lasagna
Retired

Ruby Bean
Community Concepts

Rachel McKinley
Maine Family Federal
Credit Union

Vice President

Kelsey Miller
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ZamZam Elmoge
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Eva Rodriguez
Student, Bates College

Treasurer

Leigh Weisenberger Albert
Bates College

Mary LaFontaine
Eastern Maine
Development Corporation

Carol Weir
Andwell Health Partners

Melanie LaMore
YWCA CEO

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on 2025, we do so with deep gratitude, renewed purpose, and a strong sense of momentum. This year marked an important chapter in the life of YWCA Central Maine—one defined by intentional planning, strengthened partnerships, and a clear commitment to building a future that allows our mission to thrive for generations to come.

At the heart of 2025 was the creation of a new strategic plan, developed thoughtfully by staff, board members, and community partners. This plan reflects both who we are today and who we aspire to be. Guided by our mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all, the strategic plan centers on four key priorities.

First, we committed to strengthening relationships with the community. Throughout the year, we deepened connections with families, partners, donors, and collaborators who believe in the YWCA’s work. These relationships are the foundation of our impact and ensure our programs continue to respond to real and evolving community needs.

Second, we focused on building organizational capacity. By investing in our staff, systems, and infrastructure, we are positioning the YWCA to operate more effectively, sustainably, and strategically—allowing us to deliver high-quality programs while remaining adaptable in a changing nonprofit landscape.

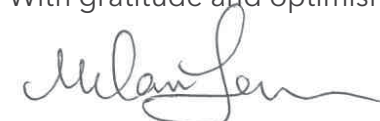
Third, we prioritized improving board governance. A strong, engaged, and well-prepared board is essential to the health of our organization. In 2025, we strengthened governance practices to ensure clarity of roles, accountability, and long-term leadership stewardship.

Finally, we began planning for organizational growth through a future capital campaign. At the same time, we are strengthening our financial resilience and building diversified revenue streams, growing reserves, and engaging in long-term fiscal planning, to ensure we can stand the test of time in any economic landscape.

None of this work happens in isolation. We are profoundly thankful to our staff, board members, volunteers, donors, and community partners who make this mission possible every day. Your belief in the YWCA fuels our ability to serve, advocate, and lead.

As you read this annual report, we hope you see not only the accomplishments of 2025, but also the promise of what lies ahead. Together, we are building a stronger YWCA—one that is rooted in community, guided by purpose, and prepared for the future.

With gratitude and optimism,



Melanie LaMore
Chief Executive Officer




Holly Lasagna
Chair, Board of Directors

YWCA IS ON A MISSION

OUR MISSION IS NOT SIMPLY A STATEMENT, it is the foundation of everything we do and the lens through which we respond to the evolving needs of our community. Every day, we open our doors to individuals and families seeking opportunity, connection, and support. Through a wide range of programs, including affordable childcare; swim lessons and wellness opportunities; and equity and justice initiatives, we provide essential services in a welcoming environment where all people are respected and valued. Our spaces are designed to be safe, inclusive, and accessible so that everyone who walks through our doors feels they belong.

Behind our programs is a deeper commitment: strengthening families, expanding access to opportunity, and removing barriers that prevent people from reaching their full potential.

In our early learning classrooms, children build the social and academic foundations that prepare them for lifelong success while parents gain the stability needed to work and thrive.

In our aquatics and wellness programs, participants of all ages improve their health, learn lifesaving skills, and discover the confidence that comes from personal growth.

Through our racial justice work, we convene conversations, provide education, and inspire action that moves our community toward equity.

What makes this work truly meaningful is the collective impact it creates. Each interaction, each lesson, and each supportive moment contributes to a stronger, more connected Central Maine. This is the work we carry out every day—often quietly, always intentionally. It is work rooted in care and driven by the belief that when people are supported and empowered, entire communities flourish.



EARLY LEARNING

(18 months - 5 years)

In 2025, YWCA Central Maine transformed all three preschool classrooms into bright, engaging spaces designed to foster exploration, confidence, and school readiness. An evidence-based curriculum and strong partnerships with local early learning providers and the Maine Department of Health and Human Services strengthened teaching practices and elevated program quality.

Access remains central to our mission. Unlike many programs, YWCA Central Maine does not cap childcare subsidies, ensuring families receive the support they need to access high-quality early learning regardless of income.

Continued investment in staff training and program excellence advanced our progress within Maine's Quality Rating and Improvement System, with educators earning Child Development Associate credentials and children reaching key developmental milestones. Together, these efforts are creating a stronger foundation for lifelong learning and helping every child thrive.



STAND AGAINST RACISM CONFERENCE

Stand Against Racism is more than an event—it is a community-building platform that amplifies voices, strengthens partnerships, and inspires both individuals and institutions to move from awareness to action. By fostering meaningful dialogue and sharing tools for systemic change, the conference helps build a network of advocates equipped to confront racism where it exists and work toward equitable outcomes for all. As part of an evolving national movement, Stand Against Racism continues to energize and mobilize participants across communities, highlighting the vital role of collective action in creating a just and inclusive society for women, people of color, and all marginalized groups.

FOOD & NUTRITION

YWCA Central Maine's Food & Nutrition Program ensures children and families have equal access to fresh, healthy, culturally appropriate meals each day—regardless of socioeconomic barriers. Beyond addressing food insecurity, the program also introduces new foods to broaden children's tastes and support lifelong healthy habits.

we served
21,323
meals to
185 children in
our care in 2025



OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME (6 to 12 years)

YWCA Central Maine's Out-of-School Time programs provide safe, engaging, and enriching experiences for children beyond the school day. Through before- and after-school care, vacation week camps, and summer camp, families have reliable support while children gain opportunities to learn, grow, and build lasting connections.

Our programs balance academic support, physical activity, creative exploration, and social-emotional learning, helping youth develop confidence, independence, and a strong sense of belonging. Dedicated staff create welcoming environments where every child is encouraged to explore new interests, build friendships, and stay active in a positive community setting. By offering consistent, high-quality care throughout the year, these programs help working families thrive while ensuring children continue learning and growing long after the school bell rings.

serving
110
children daily

we gave out
\$31,444
in summer camp scholarships
to **53** summer campers



1,006
youth learned to
swim over

5
Lifeguard Certification
Courses Taught

281
lessons offered
throughout the year

2
Swim Instructor
Courses taught

\$11,000
in scholarships given
through our "Learn to
Swim" initiative

23
Red Cross
Certifications
achieved by
YWCA staff

Ryan Page (pictured below, second from right) joined YWCA as Health and Wellness Director, overseeing our pool and all aquatics staff.



EQUITY & JUSTICE

Andrea Breau (far right) joined YWCA as Director of Equity & Justice in 2025. A longtime resident of Lewiston, former YWCA board member, and former faculty member at Colby College, Andrea brings deep expertise and leadership to advancing our mission to eliminate racism and empower women across our workplace, programs, and advocacy.

Guided by three pillars—Education, Advocacy, and Community Programming—Andrea has strengthened our Equity Foundations workshops, expanded customized trainings for community partners, and helped advance advocacy efforts focused on childcare access, voting rights, and women's health and wellness.

Andrea recently led YW Strive, a 16-week workforce development and digital skills program at the Southern Maine Women's Reentry Center. This work, alongside the upcoming launch of our Connectivity Hub in Fall 2026, reflects our commitment to closing the digital divide and expanding pathways to employment in Maine.

AQUATICS

At YWCA Central Maine, aquatics is a cornerstone of community health, safety, and connection. As the only fully accessible pool in the Lewiston-Auburn area, our facility ensures that people of all ages and abilities can safely participate in swim lessons, lap swimming, aqua fitness, and therapeutic programs.

Through water safety education, lifeguard certification courses, and inclusive programming, we help reduce barriers to participation while addressing the critical importance of drowning prevention and equitable access to swimming skills. Our aquatics programs create opportunities for confidence-building, wellness, and lifelong learning—bringing together individuals and families in a welcoming, supportive environment.

By prioritizing accessibility and inclusion, our pool continues to serve as a vital community resource where everyone can learn, move, and thrive in the water.



CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY - OUR PARTNERS

AIO
 AMS + Fairfield Schools
 Auburn School Department
 Bates College
 Black Travel Maine
 Boys & Girls Club
 Camp Kippewa
 Center for Wisdom's Women
 Central Maine Healthcare
 City of Westbrook
 Community Credit Union
 ELHS / LHS Swim Teams
 4 Future Generations
 Genentech
 Generational Noor
 Jewish Community Alliance of
 Southern Maine/
 Afghan Women's Group

Lewiston Rec Department
 (Kennedy Pool)
 Lighthouse Health & Safety
 Maine Black Chamber of
 Commerce
 Maine Immigrant and
 Refugee Services
 Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition
 Maine Lakes Environmental Assoc.
 Maine People's Alliance
 Maine Women's Lobby
 Maternal Fetal and Infant
 Mortality Review Panel
 Momentum Casco
 National Digital Equity Center
 Permanent Commission, Racial,
 Indigenous, and Tribal
 Populations

Phoenix No Limits Karate
 RSU 16
 RSU 56
 SEA CADETS
 Skindivers Paradise
 Southern Maine Women's
 Reentry Center
 Special Olympics
 Sunrise Swim Club Maine
 Sustainable Livelihoods
 Relief Organization
 TG Therapeutics
 The Root Cellar
 Tree Street Youth
 Tripp Lake
 United Way Mid Coast Maine
 Water's Edge Consulting



Looking ahead, we are energized by what's possible. The needs of our community are growing, and so is our responsibility to respond with vision, courage, and intention. To meet this moment, YWCA Central Maine is preparing to invest in our facilities, expand access to critical programs, and ensure we can serve our community for generations to come.

Our vision for the future is bold.

Together, we have the opportunity to ensure that our mission—to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all—remains strong, relevant, and actionable well into the future.



INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP

In 2025, we welcomed our first Fellow, D'Angelina Mbalire (far left), a recent graduate of Colby-Sawyer College. D'Angelina is focused on building community partnerships and expanding extracurricular opportunities for our childcare programs. Her energy, creativity, and commitment to youth development are already enhancing the experiences we provide, helping children explore new interests, build connections, and thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

LOOKING AHEAD

At YWCA Central Maine, we are continually imagining spaces that are more welcoming, accessible, and responsive to the diverse needs of our community.

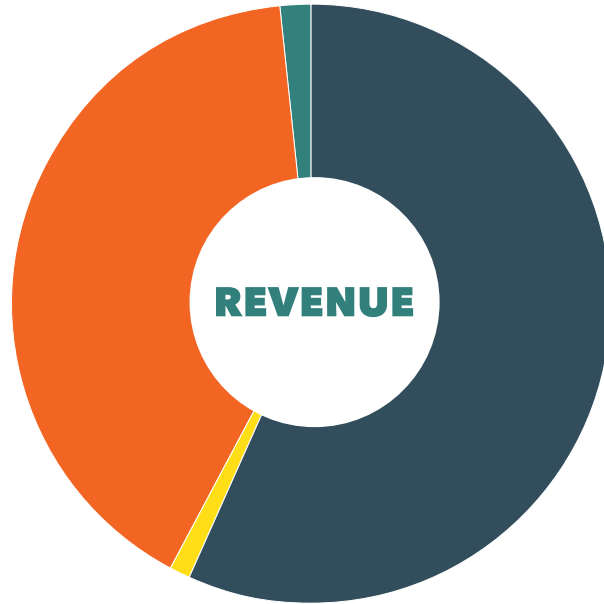
Already taking shape is our Connectivity Hub (pictured above)—an innovative space designed to expand access to technology, provide critical digital skills training, and help close opportunity gaps so that everyone in our community can fully participate in today's connected world.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building the infrastructure and capacity needed to deepen our impact and reach more people—without compromising the values that define us. We are creating a future where opportunity, wellbeing, and belonging are within reach for all.

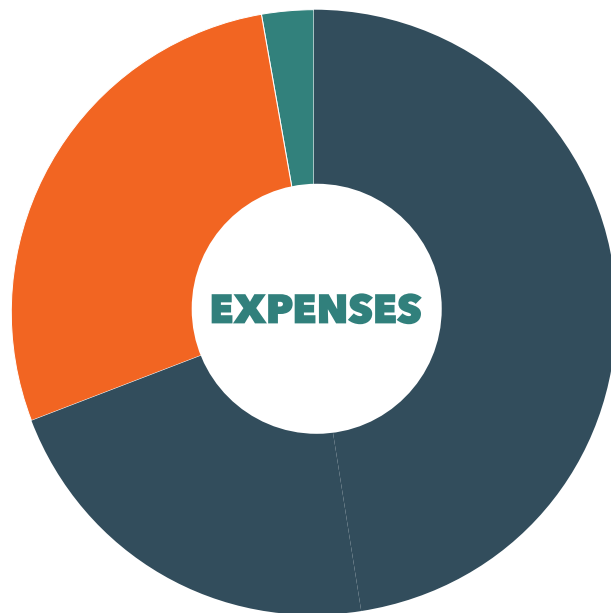


FINANCIALS

Fiscal year 2025



Program Fees	\$1,196,818
Individual & Program Donations	\$857,527
Other Income	\$30,164
Facility Rentals	\$22,249
Total Revenue	\$2,106,758



Program Expenses	\$1,483,581
Administration & General	\$601,122
Fundraising Expenses	\$54,644
Total Expenses	\$2,139,347

OUR DONORS (2025)

\$25,000 and up

First4ME
 Florence MUHS Trust
 Full Plates Full Potential
 Ladd Foundation
 Maine Connectivity Hub

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous
 Kate and Alfred Anthony Trust
 Androscoggin Valley Council of
 Government (AVCOG)
 Holly and Peter Lasagna
 Susan and Fritz Onion
 Kate Risley Foundation
 Sewall Foundation
 Leigh Weisenberger Albert

\$5,000 - \$9,999

EMD Serono
 Kathy Fulghum
 Genentech
 Jennifer Hogan
 TG Therapeutics, Inc.
 United Way

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Agnes Lindsay Trust
 Anonymous
 Lewiston CDBG
 Maine Community Foundation
 TL Paradis, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Martha and Doug Breunig
 CGI Business Solutions
 Martha Deschaines
 Gail Dow
 Dianne L. Nelder, LCSW, CCS
 and Karen Krzywda, MSPT
 Geiger
 L/A Children's Foundation
 Lewiston Youth Activity Fund
 Maine Family Federal
 Credit Union
 Susan and Philip Morgan
 Cynthia Morgan
 Barbara Oliver

Pediatric Associates of Lewiston
 Platz Associates
 Bob and Liana Poirier
 Barbara Varney Randall Fund

\$500 - \$999

Marcia Baxter
 Frederick and Janet Bishop
 Virginia Chaplin Leadership
 Fund
 Community Credit Union
 Jon and Meghan Levesque
 Norway Savings Bank
 Tom and Paula Platz
 Edward Walworth, MD -
*in memory of Dr. Candace
 Walworth*

\$250 - \$499

Lisbon Community Federal
 Credit Union
 Maine Mariners
 Rachel McKinley
 John E. O'Donnell &
 Associates, Inc.
 Pat's Pizza Auburn
 Darby Ray
 Roopers Beverage
 Craig Saddle mire
 Patricia and Stephen Sawyer
 David and Holly Sysko
 Elise and David Wilson

\$100 - \$249

Valerie Austin
 Books-a-Million
 Claire Breton - *in honor
 of Linda Sherman*
 Champoux Insurance Group
 Benjamin Chin
 John and Christine Cole
 Susan Cooper
 Catherine Ednie, PhD
 Cindy and Peter Elias
 Amy Gagne
 Patti Gilbert
 Nancy Gordon
 Paul Gosselin

Anne and David Gould
 Green Dot
 Phyllis and Douglas
 Hodgkin, PhD
 Ingrid and Lee Kendall
 Kristine Kittridge
 Maine Radiator MFG
 Kelsey Miller
 Leslie Ogilvie
 Marguerite Roy
 Cindy Scribner
 Patrick Stanton
 Skip Weisenburger

up to \$99

Charles Carnegie
 Joseph Conrad
 Herbert Coolidge
 Margaret Craven
 Laurie Cyr-Martel, D.BH, LCPC
 David and Jane Erickson, OTRL
 Eileen Fair, LCSW
 Pamela Gallant
 Richard and Diane Grandmason
 Jeanne Hood - *in memory
 of William J. Hood, Sr. and
 Jeanne Hood*
 Jacynthe Blais Jacques
 Terri M. Kelsea
 Pauline and Fernald Labbe
 Lisa and Doug LaVallee
 Louise and Raymond Madore
 Jeri and Gary Maurer
 Reenie McMains
 Constance Mower
 Pauline Perham
 Debra and Craig Phillips
 Jan Phillips
 Dr. Michael and Laura Rifkin
 Shirley and Richard Sanders
 Shaws Supermarket
 Michael Spaulding, P.A.
 Jacqueline Strong
 Monette Valcourt

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empowering women

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Central Maine