

OUR MISSION ... OUR WORK

For over 100 years of service, the mission of the YWCA of Silicon Valley has remained steadfast: **to empower women, children, and their families, and to eliminate racism, hatred, and prejudice.** We continue to provide a broad range of services that transform the lives of a diverse community. Our incredible strength lies with the many staff, volunteers, donors, community members and business leaders who share our vision and passion.

Our geographic service area includes all of Santa Clara County. Of the nearly 24,000 individuals reached by the YWCA of Silicon Valley's programs each year, 84% are children or teens and 46% are of racial or ethnic minority reflecting our diverse population. To ensure that everyone can benefit from our programs, our services are offered on a sliding scale basis or with subsidies when available. We have recently added on-site services at the Sobrato non-profit center located in Milpitas.

We constantly assess the needs of the community and develop programs to help individuals and families in transition help themselves. While we are proud to celebrate our accomplishments, there is still much to be done. Our programs include:

Child Care Services:

Seven YWCA Child Care Centers provide quality subsidized and affordable child care to more than 600 children each year. We consider the needs and interests of the children first; our mission is *"It's all about the kids."* Our child care staff is trained in cultural sensitivity to meet the needs of our diverse community. Centers are located in low- to moderate-income areas and we have been serving Silicon Valley families for over sixty years.

Counseling Services:

YWCA Counseling Services strive to promote the emotional, mental, and behavioral well-being of our community. We offer a variety of therapy and support services to individuals, couples, and families. Short- and long-term counseling, including women's support groups, are offered at the YWCA's downtown San Jose Counseling Center. These services are provided on an income-based sliding-scale fee schedule, putting counseling within reach for people at the very low- to middle-income levels. Our School-Based Counseling Program places YWCA Counselors on-campus at 16 middle, high, and continuation schools within the San Jose Unified School District. Together, these programs reach almost 1000 community members per year, 77% of whom are children or adolescents under 18 years old.

Family Services:

The YWCA offers an array of family services and workshops in support of parents and their families throughout Santa Clara County. Our goal is to provide parents and families with the knowledge and skills to encourage a healthy, nurturing environment where family relationships can thrive, preventing abuse, neglect, and family violence. Workshops are offered throughout the year county-wide in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. **Supervised (Monitored) Visitation Services** are also available, providing a safe, nurturing environment for non-custodial parents and their children to enjoy time together.

Rape Crisis Center and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Programs:

The YWCA works within Santa Clara County to minimize the traumatic aftermath of sexual assault. We provide a 24-hour crisis hotline, immediate crisis counseling and assistance, information and referrals, and accompaniment services to medical, police, and court facilities. Additionally, we annually reach over 15,000 students; grade K through 12, with age-appropriate sexual assault awareness and prevention programs. **A YWCA MyStrength® Club** has been formed at Oak Grove High School, an advocacy and empowerment program for young men we hope to replicate county-wide. We began providing crisis and educational services to our community in 1973, and since 2005 we have operated an on-campus Rape Crisis Center to serve the Stanford University community.

Social and Racial Justice (SARJ):

SARJ is a formalized effort to address the overall YWCA mission: *to eliminate racism and empower women.* SARJ is an anti-bias educational approach used as a proactive means to eradicate various forms of social and racial oppression. We hold monthly department-wide staff meetings to discuss cultural differences, traditions, and values utilizing cultural facilitators for experiential training whenever possible. Our ultimate goal is social and racial justice throughout our programs and services as well as within our community.

TechGYRLS® clubs have been formed to provide underserved girls, ages 5-14, with a safe, girl's-only environment for exploring the world of technology. Club members build problem solving skills and computer literacy through individual and group work with the assistance of instructors and mentors.

Youth Services:

We provide holistic, multilingual (English/Spanish/Vietnamese), long term, primarily educational youth empowerment programs open to both male and female students. After-school programs are currently being offered during the school year Monday through Friday, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on-site at four high schools within the Eastside Union School District. Our after-school program is an integrated intervention strategy comprised of academics, family life/sex education, sports, art, nutrition, youth development, and social interaction components.