



Children's Easter baskets for Spring Fling



YWCA Mount Desert Island
36 Mount Desert St.
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
207-288-5008
Ywcamdi.org

2021 Annual Report



Message from the Executive Director

Dear Members and Friends,

After two years of modified traditions and events, we are resuming in-person activities. For a time, hybrid options may be available. This is great news and will hopefully allow us to re-energize our work in the communities we serve.

While Covid-19 presented many challenges, it also brought new insight into the needs of so many women who live on MDI and just beyond. In 2020, when the Benni Fund was established in memory of Benni McMullen, single mothers sent us applications describing their needs for basic necessities – rent, fuel, food – to sustain their families, all of which were eye-opening. We were able to assist many of them, thanks to the generosity of a large number of donors. However, we wondered, “What will happen in the future? Can we increase our outreach to include financial assistance for women and their families?” Are we able to Expand our Heart?

We have begun. A newly created line item in our annual budget will provide some direct assistance funding. It is a start. We have also reached out to a number of private daycare providers to see how we might help to provide incentives for expansion or new starts. And, while we do offer safe and affordable lodging already, there is more we can do to help address the crucial need for year-round and seasonal housing in our communities.

Going forward, we want to Expand our Heart to rise to these challenges and with continued volunteer assistance and financial support, we can do this!

Jackie

Jackie Davidson
Executive Director

(Front cover image of 100's of roses waiting to be delivered on International Women's Day)

Volunteers 2021

Dee Beaudoin	Enoch Albert-Knopp	Eliza Worrick
Sue Blaisdell	Gail Leiser	Terri Zabala
Bella Brown	Sue Lerner	Karen Zimmerman
Anne Buttimer	Gay Lindenmeyer	
Anna Carr	Adam Losquadro	
Lucia Chapman	Emily Losquadro	
Dan Clark	Kristi Losquadro	
Emily Clark	Roslynne Lowry	
Robyn Clark	Linda McCulley	
Sarah Cleaves	Dianne McMullen	
Marilyn DiBonaventuro	Annie Menzietti	
Mae Corrion	Susan Murphy	
Ruby DeMuro	Brian O'Neill	
Cas Dowden	Audrey Newell	
Betsy Drake	David Parker	
Michelle Edwards	Lisa Parsons	
Eileen Fahey	Thelma Pennant	
Alice French	Chris Popper	
Judy Fuller	Pat Pugh	
Julie Fulton-Kelly	Mel Rice-Schoon	
Linda Gee	Amy Roebuck	
Jill Goldthwait	Martha Searchfield	
Jason Goller	Tim Searchfield	
Rylee Goller	Deb Staples	
Lin Gould	Annie Suso	
Michelle Gurtler	June Swan	
Beverly Haskell	Bonnie Tai	
Martha Higgins	Terry Wagner	
Freddie Hyde	Linda Washburn	
Ormanda Johnson	Jill Weber	
Carrie Jones	Molly Webster	
Kate Jordan	Jameson Weir	
Rob Jordan	Leila Weir	
Maureen Kane	Barbara Weymouth	
Sharon Knopp	Ann Worrick	



Benni Fund ▲ General Fund ● Members ■ Recurring Donors ◆ Scholarship Funds ■ Volunteers ✨

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 Gay Ann Lindenmeyer ●✨
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Business & Organization Donors \$5000+

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 Cross Financial Corporation ●
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\$50-\$499

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 Seaside United Church of Christ ●
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YWCA

Pledge to Eliminate Racism in My Life

Mindful of the continuing affliction of institutional and structural racism as well as the daily realities of all forms of bias, prejudice, and bigotry in my own life, my family, my circle of friends, my co-workers, and the society in which I live, with conviction and hope:

I take this pledge, fully aware that the struggle to eliminate racism will not end with a mere pledge but calls for an ongoing transformation within myself and the institutions and structures of our society.

I pledge to look deeply and continuously in my heart and in my mind to identify all signs and vestiges of racism; to rebuke the use of racist language and behavior towards others; to root out such racism in my daily life and in my encounters with persons I know and with strangers I do not know; and to expand my consciousness to be more aware and sensitive to my use of overt and subtle expressions of racism and racial stereotypes;

I pledge to educate myself on racial justice issues and share what I learn in my own communities even if it means challenging my family, my partner, my children, my friends, my co-workers, and those I encounter on a daily basis.

I pledge, within my means, to actively work to support public policy solutions that prominently, openly, and enthusiastically promote racial equity in all aspects of human affairs; and to actively support and devote my time to YWCA, as well as other organizations working to eradicate racism from our society.

YWCA USA is on a mission to eliminate racism and empower women. I join YWCA in taking a stand against racism today and every day.

**This pledge has been adapted by YWCA USA from the Pledge to Eliminate Racism in My Life, YWCA Bergen County which is an adaptation of the Pledge to Heal Racism in My Life, Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace, April 10, 2006.*

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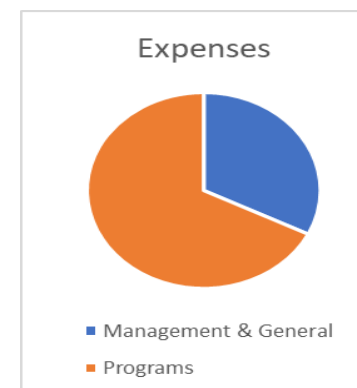
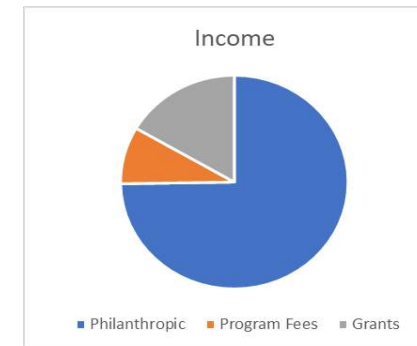
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We Would Like to Thank the Following Businesses for Gifts in Kind

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Acadia Corporation
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Cool-As-A-Moose
Curtis Family Shoe

Mount Dessert Bakery
My Darling Maine Island Boutique
Queen Anne's Flower Shop
Stone Soup
Sweet Haven Farms
Window Panes

2020 Audited Financials



Income

Philanthropic	\$370,220
Program fees	\$42,846
Grants, Including SBA	\$82,200
Total income	\$495,266

Expenses

Management & General	\$154,055
Programs	\$321,953
Total expense	\$476,008

2021 audited financial statements will be available in November 2022.

**YWCA MDI is dedicated to eliminating racism,
empowering women, and promoting peace, justice,
freedom, and dignity for all.**



2021 brought another year of change and challenges due to Covid-19. Masks were worn throughout the year in the public areas of the building. In-person exercise classes resumed, then were stopped again but continued via Zoom. Lodging was at half-capacity during our usually busy summer season, and we updated our lower parking lot.



The year also brought clarity on how greatly the pandemic impacted women on issues of employment, childcare opportunities, mental health, the dramatic increase in domestic violence cases across the world, and the lack of affordable living space on MDI.

Despite the setbacks, YWCA MDI has been doing our best to keep our followers up-to-date on social challenges impacting women and girls, the LGBTQ+ and BIPOC communities, standing against racism, and important voting issues.

~PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY~

~In *February* we hosted a Virtual Valentine's Tea for children.

~*March* was our Annual International Women's Day Rose Sale. "*What a great event! Recognizing women and raising money for the YW's excellent work in our community!*" - Jill Weber

~In *April* the Easter Bunny joined us to give out Easter baskets on the front lawn for Spring Fling.

~In *August* we held the annual Luminaria event that honors or remembers our loved ones diagnosed with cancer. The 2021 beneficiary was Island Connections.

~*December* was the annual Children's Bazaar

~Strong Women Exercise Class with Cas Dowden, held *weekly* on Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays

Expanding our Heart

~PROGRAMS THAT ADVANCE OUR MISSION~

~In *January* along with MDI Racial Equity Working Group (REWG) and MDI Helpers Pandemic Mutual Aid, we hosted 'MDI Celebrates Martin Luther King Jr. Day,' where school children chose to create social justice artwork or helped their neighbors out by performing a day of service.

~There was a talk in April with Angela Okafor on "Purposeful Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; our Ticket to Economic Growth and Stability." Angela is a Nigerian born immigrant and attorney who owns an immigration law practice, an international market, and a hair care business.

~The Dollars for Scholars Rummage Sale took place in *May*. This event raises money for the scholarships we provide that support women and girls.

~Throughout the summer months and the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving, we had pie sales. The pies were baked by our volunteers and the booth was manned by volunteers. These sales help support our lodging program.

~In *June* we assisted the 1st Bar Harbor Pride Drive by collecting donated items for Maine Needs and the Emmaus Shelter and in collaboration with MDI REWG and Healthy Acadia.

-Also in *June* we co-hosted a Juneteenth Celebration at College of the Atlantic with MDI REWG, and Healthy Acadia featuring music and spoken word, with a performance by special guest, Yo Yo Ma.

~There was a film screening and discussion in *September*, "Votes for Women: The History of Women's Suffrage Through Song," led by Barbara Cray videographer, co-hosted with Jesup Memorial Library.

~A Reproductive Rights gathering on the Bar Harbor Village Green took place in *December*.

