### Sexual Assault Program

Maria* was referred to the Sexual Assault Program just over a year ago by a medical provider. She spoke with an advocate and began to attend several of our group services including Women, Trauma and Healing, a day of self-care that provides female-identified survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence with a variety of workshops such as meditation, journaling, Zumba and artistic based projects. After attending, Maria reached out to one of our advocates to express the impact the event had on her.

“I feel that YWCA understands that after experiencing trauma, self-esteem could be low. I always feel so loved, so valuable and respected at the workshops. I leave feeling free to be who I am, and who I am is OK. Thank you for helping me through this process of healing.”

Your generosity helps Maria and survivors like her work to heal from trauma, and feel safe, supported, and believed.

### Women’s Leadership Center

**Shannon**, a businesswoman, attended “Finding Our Gold,” a workshop geared towards women 50+. The experience empowered her enough to address 600 financial advisors at a conference she later attended, and she reached out to one of our facilitators to say, “I am not sure I could have formed my ideas in a meaningful way without our experience. I feel like I carried an invisible banner for our entire group. I have so much to say and much to live for. Thank you. What a gift!”

### 2019 Community Report

**Your Impact In Action**

**Y’s Care Preschool Program**

Two brothers, Russell and Kyle*, were both enrolled in Y’s Care. At the time of their enrollment, the boys’ parents were in the middle of a divorce. The difficulties in their home life, coupled with certain learning challenges each boy faced, made school difficult.

Because of the generous support Y’s Care receives from donors like you, they were able to offer job and housing resources to the boy’s parents. Y’s Care staff also helped their mother navigate the referral process to get Kyle an Individualized Education Program (IEP).

With the help of a professional therapist who came in to observe and assess the boys, Y’s Care staff was able to sit down with their mother and showed her some exercises and strategies to help her sons in their learning process.

Since then both Russell and Kyle have shown real improvement in school and at home. You allowed us to give each boy the attention they deserve and come up with unique strategies to improve their ability to learn and meet their educational challenges.

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**2,813 Service days for children and families**

YWCA’s doors and phone lines open to the most vulnerable women, children and families in our community. It was also clear that this was an agency that we would stand by, advocate for, and support in any way we could.

A few weeks after that tour, my sister and I returned to deliver backpacks, clothing, and toiletries to Y’s Care. As we unpacked these items, a little girl ran over to us and asked if we had a pair of pants for her, because she was cold. She was wearing an oversized sweatshirt and loose-fitting plastic sandals, which is more than she had on when the van picked her up that morning from the shelter she stayed at with her mom and siblings. We quickly found a pair for her to put on, and she skipped away to go play... to be a kid. Like other children in Y’s Care, she didn’t long for the latest toy or gadget ... she longed for security, warmth, and a sense of stability in her life. She found that at YWCA Clark County.

Over the past nearly 25 years, our family has volunteered with YWCA, collected donations, and fundraised. I’ve served on the board of directors, and my late father established an endowment for Y’s Care. We’ve watched as lives were changed, hearts mended, and women, children and families found the safety and security they deserve.

We’re proud to be a community partner of YWCA, and grateful for the amazing work they do each day. Some say hope isn’t tangible, but I believe it is … YWCA Clark County provides it every day.

With Gratitude,

Linda Rae Hickey, Executive Director, Ray Hickey Foundation

*All participant names have been changed to protect privacy
The core of YWCA Clark County’s mission is to promote equality and work to end racism and bigotry. Infused in everything we do, it is the inspiration behind our advocacy. We live this mission throughout our organization. We have in place a racial equity committee and a Social Justice Action League (SJAL). These committees make recommendations on how YWCA can be more equitable and inclusive, and provide regular updates to the staff and Board. Additionally, they are responsible for providing ongoing learning opportunities on all forms of diversity to all of our staff. This includes the organization’s commitment to requiring every staff member to receive continuing education pertaining to racial equity and a minimum of two cultural awareness workshops each year.

We ensure representation on our public policy committee from culturally specific community partners so that we are responsive to issues that impact communities of color and other groups who experience oppression. Current membership includes representatives from LULAC, NAACP, and PFLAG. Within our programs, we provide culturally-specific services to Latinx survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, including bilingual and bi-cultural staff who provide advocacy and outreach.

We hold an annual Stand Against Racism event, and since 1989 have given out The Val Joshua Racial Justice and Youth Social Justice Awards to recognize two people in our community each year who are working toward ending oppression.

While we are proud of all the work we do, perhaps more important is that we acknowledge we can always strive to do better, to listen more, and keep learning how to be stronger advocates to all who experience oppression.

**2018 Val Joshua Racial Justice and Youth Social Justice Award Winners**

### Independent Living Skills Program

*Jill* came to our Independent Living Skills Program during her senior year of high school. She had recently moved from out-of-state after being removed from the care of relatives who were physically and emotionally abusive. During a time when most teenagers her age are planning for life after high school, Jill was trying to adjust to living in a completely new environment.

When she met with her ILS advocate, she was working hard to catch up on all her credits due to the transfer. Because of donors like you, Jill worked with her advocate to come up with a plan to help make sure she kept up with her studies, while also planning for her future. Your support helped Jill complete all her college applications and apply for various scholarships. Jill was accepted to Washington State University and is currently enrolled.

Before leaving, ILS assisted her in getting a new laptop. After college, Jill hopes to attend medical school and become a pediatrician so she can help kids be happy and healthy.

### SafeChoice Domestic Violence Program

The SafeChoice Program advocates for, educates, and supports those affected by domestic violence.

Hannah* first came to the SafeChoice Domestic Violence shelter with her three children fleeing an abusive long-term relationship. During the time Hannah was with her partner, she experienced financial, psychological, emotional abuse, as well as severe physical abuse that put both her and her children in danger.

Your support throughout Hannah and her family’s stay at the shelter provided food, personal items, transportation assistance, as well as referrals for housing, parenting, and family resources.

Hannah’s children regularly attended the Children’s Advocacy Program (CAP) and formed a strong bond with their CAP Advocate and Domestic Violence and Family Support Specialist. At the same time, Hannah met with the DV and Family Support Specialist weekly to work on goals and provide action planning, encouragement, emotional support, and ongoing safety planning for the entire family. Additionally, Hannah attended two groups offered in shelter centered on resources, community, and financial empowerment.

Your generosity allowed Hannah to have the time and resources to find stable, full-time employment while at the shelter. With the help of a local housing agency and SafeChoice financial assistance funding, Hannah and her children were able to move into an apartment and begin a safe, happy, and healthy new chapter in their lives.

### Clark County CASA Program

Like many kids in foster care, Henry* moved around a lot. He first came into the care of the state due to his mother’s struggle with mental health issues. For a time Henry was placed in the care of his older sister, but that only lasted for a year. He spent time living with various other friends and family members until eventually ending up in a group home.

Henry’s Court Appointed Special Advocate, Tom, supported him throughout this entire process. He was present at every home placement, made regular visits to Henry’s home, and kept in touch with each of the schools Henry transferred to with each move. Through your big-heartedness, Tom had the resources to be able to be a consistent and supportive presence during a very tumultuous time in Henry’s life. He and Henry built a strong relationship, and Henry was able to confide in and rely on Tom in tough times.

Eventually, Henry’s mother re-entered his life, and she was able to access helpful resources, including a Family Unification Voucher (FUV) which aided her in finding affordable housing. She and Henry reunited in August. Because of your kindness, Henry was supported throughout his entire time in the dependency system and achieved a safe, happy reunion between him and his mother.

### 2018 Val Joshua Racial Justice and Youth Social Justice Award

**ON A MISSION TO END RACISM**

**HOURS TOTALING A FISCAL VALUE OF $591,129.61**

- **497 VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTED**
- **18,703**

**1121 Survivors and loved ones served**

**9,416 Hotline calls answered**

**6,679 Bednights provided**