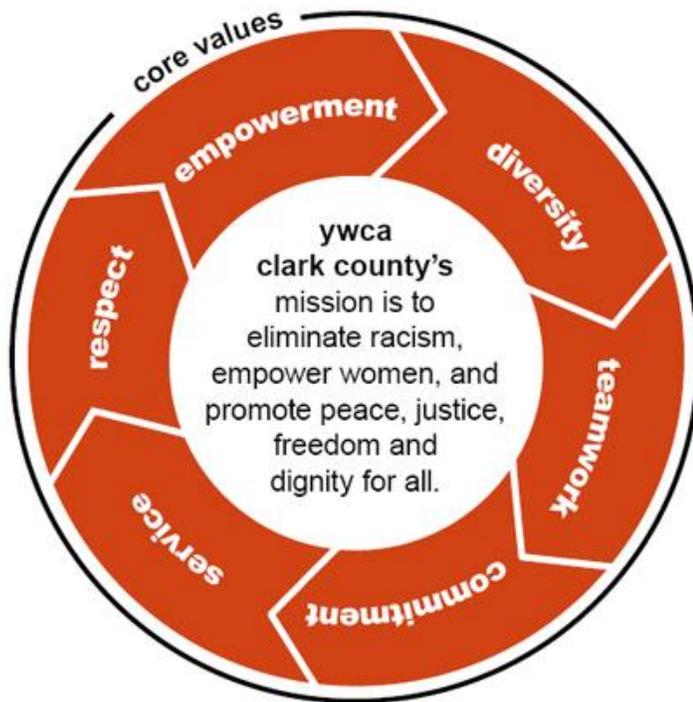


# Volunteer and Internship Opportunities

YWCA Clark County's mission is eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. The success of YWCA Clark County rests in the strength and energy of its dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talent to the organization. There are a wide variety of volunteer opportunities available with YWCA. Many programs also offer unpaid internships to students and those seeking to gain professional skills.



**diversity** – we celebrate and respect our differences and recognize the dignity of each individual

**teamwork** – we cooperate to achieve our shared vision

**commitment** – we believe in and live our mission and we are authentic in our word and deed

**service** – we are leaders in providing quality and innovative service in a caring, compassionate, safe environment

**respect** – we value and honor individual ideas, contributions and opinions

**empowerment** – we provide the tools and support that build self-esteem and foster positive life choice

## benefits & requirements of volunteer service

As a YWCA volunteer you will:

- Engage in work that directly supports YWCA's mission
- Be provided with free training to prepare you for your role
- Be provided ongoing supervision and support from experienced staff
- Join a team of dedicated and skilled professionals
- Make an impact on the lives of survivors of violence and oppression

As a YWCA volunteer, you are required to:

- Uphold the mission and values of YWCA
- Complete at least 12 hours of YWCA core training within your first six months of service
- Pass a criminal background check\*
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Commit to your volunteer role (minimum length of time varies by program)
- Not have received YWCA services for at least 12 months and up to 2 years

\*YWCA relies on Washington Administrative Code (WAC) as a minimum requirement of eligibility. Additional criteria may apply. To view WAC restrictions, [click here](#).

## **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)**

Hundreds of abused, neglected and abandoned children are the subjects of legal proceedings each year in Clark County. The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) is a trained volunteer who represents the best interests of a child placed in the foster care system, ensuring that the child's voice is heard. The CASA gathers information, follows the child's progress, monitors parents' progress, facilitates positive communication, and makes recommendations to the Court based on their findings. The CASA is an advocate for the child.

Volunteers must have:

- An interest in children, their rights, and special needs.
- The ability to complete required trainings, work on assigned case(s) and maintain regular communication with CASA Staff.
- Approximately 10-12 hours per month to devote to seeing the child, investigation, meetings, Court appearances, and other follow-up for the assigned case. Daytime hours may be needed.
- Basic human relation skills to work with children, family members, and professionals.

Volunteers must be 21+ years old, have no serious criminal history, and complete 30 hours of pre-service training and 12 hours of annual continuing education. To minimize the transition experienced by children in foster care, we ask for a minimum 1 year commitment.

Professional staff provides support and supervision of CASA volunteers. Currently, there is a special need for bi-lingual, bi-cultural, and/or male volunteers. Internships are available on an ongoing basis and require at least a one year commitment.