

ywca of greater portland

The concise Descriptor

Use this Descriptor whenever there is space for brief wording that communicates the core of our mission.

The YWCA of Greater Portland is dedicated to changing lives by empowering women and their families to achieve safety, opportunity, and independence.

Expanded description

The following paragraphs provide a more detailed account of our mission, and are suitable when there is room or demand for more information than the Descriptor alone gives. The first paragraph is the primary paragraph. The second, optional paragraph provides more detail.

The YWCA of Greater Portland provides life-changing social services for women, children and families from all walks and phases of life, guiding them through three stages of empowerment: Safety, Opportunity, and Independence. Our comprehensive programs create positive impact in the community by encompassing four key service areas: Domestic Violence Services, Transitional Services, Youth Services, and Senior Services.

Our programs provide housing, life skills, and advocacy for survivors of domestic violence and their children, and for women transitioning from incarceration. We support seniors by providing resources which allow them to maintain their independence. And we prepare children to thrive in today's multicultural world through innovative camp and educational programs.

The third paragraph adds a bit of history, so may be helpful in cases where this perspective is deemed to be important.

At its founding in 1901, the YWCA of Greater Portland was primarily concerned with the safety of young women migrating from rural areas to Portland. We offered them a sanctuary from the dangers of city life by helping them find safe housing, employment, and wholesome activities. As the lifestyles and needs of women have evolved, so have the YWCA's core services. Today, the YWCA of Greater Portland strives to empower women and families to achieve safety, opportunity, and independence.