

ywca SAN GABRIEL VALLEY our voice



943 No. Grand Ave.
Covina, CA 91724
(626) 960-2995
www.ywcasgv.org

SENIOR SERVICES
YWCA Intervale
24-Hour Message Line:
(626) 214-9465

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
YWCA WINGS
24-Hour Help Line:
(626) 967-0658

eliminating racism empowering women

January 2010

OUR MISSION • *To eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.*

Visit our **facebook** page and become a fan of the YWCA SGV!

COMING EVENTS

Nominations due March 1, 2010 for Women of Achievement Awards
Please go to our website (www.ywcasgv.org) for nomination forms.

The 26th Annual Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon will be Thursday, June 17, 2010 at the Cal Poly Pomona, Bronco Student Center. It will be held in combination with a full-day conference, "Life and Leadership in a Diverse and Changing World."

Empowering Women Who Want Financial Health & Wealth March 2010

This course presented by UCLA Extension teaches women how to take control of their financial future. For more information, contact Kenia Davalos (626) 421-4438.

Stand Against Racism and YWCA SGV Open House
April 30, 2010 See article on page 3.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LISA BRABO HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In the midst of the blowing horns and confetti welcoming the new decade, we're hoping for a new year marked by increased employment and housing stability - an upturn for "main street" that sees fewer families, schools, and communities in need.

In 2010 the YWCA SGV will continue providing core services to older persons, victims of domestic violence, and teens, while launching some new programs and projects. In this issue you'll read about several of these new or expanded endeavors. We look forward to working with you in 2010!



HOME DELIVERED MEALS FOR SENIORS AT NO COST!

Need home delivered meals or know someone who does? We can provide them for no charge. Please call Blanca Gonzales, Intake Manager, at 626-214-9465 to make referrals. Meals are available for seniors age 60 or older who are homebound, their spouses and eligible dependents. Our case managers will conduct a home visit in order to set up the service; they will also provide information on other available services that may increase seniors' independence at home. We have case managers who speak Spanish, Cantonese, Mandarin and Vietnamese in addition to English.

A complete listing of the areas we serve includes: Alhambra, Altadena, Arcadia & Arcadia Islands, Azusa (unincorporated), Baldwin Park, Bassett, Charter Oak, Claremont, Covina & unincorporated islands, Diamond Bar, Duarte, El Monte & North El Monte, Glendora, Irwindale, Hacienda Heights, Industry, La Habra Heights, La Puente, La Verne, Monrovia, Monterey Park, North Whittier (unincorporated), Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, Rowland Heights, San Gabriel & South San Gabriel, San Dimas, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, Temple City, Valinda, Walnut, and West Covina.



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE: TWO DECADES OF LEADERSHIP

If one were to describe Anna Lee Farber, the characteristic of "loyalty" would likely come up. The West Covina marketing consultant has been a loyal board member and volunteer with the YWCA SGV for 22 years.

"I was honestly just looking to get more involved in the community at first, but the more I learned about the domestic violence and senior programs that the YWCA provided, the more passionate I grew about helping in whatever way I could," says Anna Lee. She currently serves as secretary of the board, but has held many other positions of leadership, including president.

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37th Annual Tennis Classic Fundraiser May 7, 2010

This fundraiser supports the Domestic Violence Program. Stay tuned for more details or contact the Chair, Ann Baker, at annbaker@cox.net or (858) 481-1011.

Older Americans Month May 2010

“Life and Leadership in a Diverse and Changing World” Conference and Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon

June 17, 2010

To be held at Cal Poly Pomona, Bronco Student Center. Please go to our website (www.ywcasgv.org) for conference overview and sponsorship information.

YWCA SGV Programs

Services for Domestic Violence Victims: Shelter and support services so that adults and children can be safe, healthy, and lead violence-free lives.

24-Hour Helpline 626-967-0658

Teen Education Program: Presentations in schools about healthy relationships to prevent teen dating violence and provide assistance to teens in need.

Services for Seniors: Nutritious meals and care management so that elders can live in their own homes with independence and quality of life.

24-Hour Message Line 626-214-9465

**Leadership Development Opportunities
for women, girls and older adults.**

For much of the past decade, she has overseen the silent auction for the Women of Achievement fundraising event. She spearheaded efforts to raise tens of thousands of dollars by securing and selling auction items.

In 2004 and 2005, Anna Lee was a public relations consultant for the YWCA. She is proud of the heightened community awareness of domestic violence and senior citizen needs that resulted from her efforts. Her work helped the organization put a face on the problems of domestic violence in under-served communities, such as the Asian neighborhoods of the San Gabriel Valley.

Although she has headed her own marketing firm for more than 20 years, Anna Lee has still found time to volunteer with other community groups, especially the West Covina Lions Club. She has held most leadership positions in the club and continues to be active today.

Anna Lee earned her master's degree at University of Washington, Seattle. While there, she met her husband, Rob. He is now a research scientist for Southern California Edison. They have two children, Devon and Shannon, who are currently working their way through college



NEW GRANT 'RESPECT FOR ALL' FOR TEENS

The San Gabriel Valley is one of the most diverse regions in the United States, bringing together people from dozens of ethnic, racial, religious, and gender preference groups. So how do we make sure we all get along? How do we reduce the violence that sometimes results from misunderstandings or prejudices?

To fulfill its mission of empowering women and eliminating racism, the YWCA SGV will embark on a ground-breaking educational program for teens this year, designed to give young people tools and skills to reduce bias and violence. The Respect for All Project, which will be introduced in the cities of El Monte and Baldwin Park, uses award-winning films and group discussions to reduce prejudice and prejudicial actions.

The program was developed by Groundspark www.groundspark.org/respect-for-all, a San Francisco-based national non-profit that creates films and educational campaigns to uproot entrenched prejudices. Specifically, the program aims to reduce bias-based bullying, teen dating violence, and gang violence.

This program is made possible by a recent grant from the California Department of Public Health. "Since we are already working with youth in areas like dating violence, this is a natural extension of our current efforts," says Lisa Brabo, executive director of the YWCA SGV. "We're excited to work with Groundspark's new curriculum to bring a fresh approach to reducing teen violence of all kinds."

The project will begin in the second quarter of 2010. For information, contact Lisa Brabo at 626-214-9442.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM BLESSED WITH GENEROUS DONORS

During some of the toughest economic times in a generation, the YWCA SGV has been blessed with an overwhelming number of holiday donations for its domestic violence program.

Among the largest contributors was by Delta Kappa Gamma, a teacher's sorority in the east San Gabriel Valley. As its annual holiday service project, members donated \$600 worth of new pajamas and food gift cards for domestic violence survivors and children of the YWCA SGV domestic violence program, WINGS.

"Many of our members work in schools where we see children from abusive homes every

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Sign up instantly at
www.ywcasgv.org

Email us at
info@ywcasgv.org

Give us a call at
(626) 214-9440

day," says Janye Iberri, who chairs the sorority's WINGS committee. "Even though none of us has a lot, we are grateful for what we have and happy to share with others less fortunate."

Many groups and individuals gave generously this holiday season and we thank you!



LATINA ENTREPRENEUR USES FINANCIAL LITERACY TO EMPOWER WOMEN

Kenia Davalos always knew she would be successful, in spite of – or maybe because of – her difficult early life. Because of her determination, she became the first in her family to graduate from college, sometimes working four jobs to support herself and pay all her educational expenses.

After earning a BA in History from UC Santa Cruz, Kenia went on to complete a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University and later completed a certificate program from Harvard University. She worked in several successful family-owned businesses, and served on several statewide and national boards and at age 30, was named one of America's top Latina leaders.

But Kenia was determined to not only advance her own career but to empower others too. She became an instructor at UCLA Extension, teaching a six-week course "Women in Transition: From Financial Health and Wealth."

When she joined the YWCA SGV Board of Directors a year and a half ago, she started a scholarship program to enable 27 at-risk women served by the organization to take the course free of charge. She even arranged for free transportation to the Saturday classes in Westwood, and provided personal mentoring and counseling.

"I know what it's like to come from an abusive home and not know where to turn for help," says Kenia. "It's not just about what you have in your bank account – it's about your network of friends, colleagues and supporters who will make your life truly rich."

A single mother of two children, ages 6 and 7, Kenia says she wants to be a role model and continue to help other women reach their potential by pursuing a doctorate in education.



LOCAL GROUPS TO JOIN YWCA'S STAND AGAINST RACISM

This April 30, the YWCA SGV will be leading a contingent of community organizations, schools, and business and joining 68 other YWCA's across the country in taking a "Stand Against Racism."

All staff, volunteers, partners and friends of the YWCA SGV are invited to be a part of this historic event, where tens of thousands of individuals and organizations in the United States are expected to speak in one voice to raise awareness of racism and how to eliminate it in our communities.

Locally, we will be reaching out to community and business partners to encourage their members to take a few minutes out of their day April 30 to think about how they can be part of the movement to eradicate racism from our society. Similar efforts, begun in 2007 by the YWCA Trenton New Jersey, have helped raise public awareness of the need to address hate crimes, discrimination, and bullying.

Eliminating racism is one of the key missions of the YWCA.

Participating organizations will be receiving buttons, bookmarks, posters and other Stand Against Racism-themed materials free of charge in the next couple of months. If your group is interested, please see the YWCA SGV website (www.ywcasgv.org) or contact YWCA SGV volunteer Vivien Hao at 323-893-4743.