



Girls Day Out Lego® Activity*

02

-Child Care
-Aid to Victims of
Violence (AVV)

03

-Health and Fitness
-Mentoring

04

-Boards
-Staff Leadership
-Connect with Us
-2024 Financials

YWCA CORTLAND ANNUAL REPORT

2024

Distributed May 2025

From the Executive Director, Kelly Tobin

As we join together to review our 2024 activities and look forward, we do so with deep gratitude and a shared sense of pride in all we've accomplished. Inside this report, you'll find reflections of a year defined by growth, innovation, and resilience—fueled by our unwavering commitment to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Among the most exciting milestones last year was the launch of a **LEAPS program** in September 2024, which now provides free after-school care for families at Smith Intermediate and Randall Middle Schools in the Cortland Enlarged City School District. This New York State Learning and Enrichment After-School Program Supports initiative has

offered critical assistance for students' academic and emotional development, while also delivering much-needed peace of mind for working families needing child care.

We also initiated a **full renovation of our basement** in the Fall of 2024, which is now nearly complete. It will soon serve as a vibrant indoor play space for youth enrolled in our Mentoring and Child Care Programs, as well as for community members. This area will provide children with a safe, engaging environment in which to play and grow—regardless of the season—offering more room for joy, movement, and connection.

Our commitment to healing-centered spaces continued in 2025 with the opening of a **new wellness room**, offering meditation, yoga, and quiet

reflection for both program participants and our staff.

Recognizing the importance of social-emotional development, we also introduced **recreational therapy** programming—including **LEGO® Therapy**—helping young people build confidence, communication skills, and meaningful relationships.

The **Grace Brown House**, which offers permanent supportive housing to women domestic violence survivors and their children, continues to thrive as a beacon of hope and stability for women and families working to rebuild their lives with dignity and support. And none of this progress would be possible without the extraordinary dedication of our staff.

Continued on report insert

**YWCA
IS ON A
MISSION**

*At the 23rd Annual Girls Day Out, Mentoring Director Mindy Gardner brought recreational therapy programming to girls age 10-14 in a fun and unique way. In this collaborative Lego® building activity, participants are assigned roles such as "Supplier", "Engineer", or "Builder" and given different information with the goal of fostering communication to build one structure.

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



Here We Grow teacher Izzy Rodriguez, presenting '24 UPK graduate, Kyreek, with his certificate of completion.

Child Care

YWCA is the largest provider of childhood learning services in Cortland County. The program includes a licensed childcare center, school-age care, and summer care and recreation.

Our programs support and empower parents and children by offering them opportunities to gain knowledge and respect of self, family, culture, and community in an atmosphere that is developmentally appropriate, safe, stimulating, and nurturing.

316 Unique Children Served in 2024:

(59 children enrolled in both School-Age and Summer Care)

161: School-Age Care

- 35 low income daycare subsidy
- 180 households
- 53 single parent families
- 35 served through LEAPS* grant

137: Summer Care

- 58 low income daycare subsidy
- 183 households
- 56 single parent families

73: Here We Grow Childcare Center

- 32 low income daycare subsidy
- 55 households
- 16 single parent families
- 26 Universal Pre-K (UPK) students
- 4 kids received Early Intervention services
- 6 children received Committee on Preschool Ed (CPSE) services

**Read about the LEAPS grant in ED Report.*

AVV Cases:

- **1,265 hotline calls**
- **Opened 380 new cases**
 - 97 ongoing cases
 - 427 domestic violence
 - 28 sexual assault/rape
 - 22 child abuse

AVV Emergency Housing:

- **54 people housed at safe dwelling**
 - 29 adults and 25 children
 - Avg. length of stay: 43 nights
- **4 people at alternative housing**
 - 2 adults and 2 children
 - Avg. length of stay: 22 nights

Grace Brown House:

- 92% occupancy rate
- 6 units turned over in 2024
- 23 single women & 11 families
- 5 young adults aged 18-24
- Avg. length of residency: 23.5 months
- 9 people on waitlist for apartments

Aid to Victims of Violence (AVV)

AVV provides comprehensive free and confidential services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, rape, and other crimes.

YWCA Cortland's AVV program resides in a safe, secured area of the YWCA facility where advocates assist clients with services including legal referral, accompaniment, advocacy, crisis intervention, and phone counseling via a 24-hour crisis hotline.

AVV operates emergency housing off site for female and male domestic violence (DV) victims and their children. It also provides permanent supportive housing services to women DV survivors and their children at the Grace Brown House (GBH), where they are given support and resources to get back on their own feet.

Groups like Power of Change and prevention education trainings offered by AVV staff aim to end the cycle of abuse. Training topics include generational trauma, fostering healthy relationships, victimology, bystander intervention, and more.



Grace Brown House residents striking a pose for the photobooth at the 5th Annual Chefs Take a Stand Against Domestic Violence event on October 2, 2024, after sampling delicious food provided by 20+ community leaders.

Health and Fitness

YWCA exercise and aquatics programs empower women, men and children of all ages through physiological, recreational, social, and cultural experiences.

The YWCA Health & Fitness team consists of experienced and well-rounded instructors that make our programs fun, approachable, and effective. On land we have Cindy Cole, Cassandra Degouff, Laurie Greene, and Brenna Ricci, and in the pool we have Meryl Fish and Tya Phillips.

Land Exercise and Recreation

- Adults
 - Co-ed weight room
 - 10 different group exercise classes offered weekly
 - Specialty programs like Tai Chi, meditation retreats, pickleball workshops, and more
 - Personal training
- Seniors
 - Weekly social program for seniors
 - 3 insurance programs for eligible seniors
- Children
 - 4 types of gymnastics classes for ages 1-10
 - Gym parties and rentals

Aquatics

- 90-degree therapeutic pool
- 75+ water exercise members
- Red Cross swim lessons for children
- 3 distinct adult water exercise classes
 - Joint Venture, Splash, and Water Works
- Lap and Leisure and open swim times
- Pool parties and rentals



Joint Venture students working to relieve chronic pain and inflammation in our warm-water pool.

Mentoring Totals:

- 278 total enrolled youth
- 45 enrolled through LEAPS*
- 95 youth in group mentoring
- 23 mentors
- Approx. 795 gifts donated
- 175 backpacks distributed
- 200 meals provided

Mentoring Demographics: (excluding 45 LEAPS enrollees)

- **Gender:** 139 female, 94 male
- **Ages:** 13 under age 4, 82 ages 5-9, 121 ages 10-14, 16 ages 15-17
- **Ethnicity:** 200 White, 15 Black, 13 Hispanic or Latino, 25 two+ races

Special Circumstances: 34 with one or more parents deceased, 20 with an incarcerated caregiver

Mentoring Waitlist:

- 233 youth waiting to be matched
- 75 families
 - 18 of those families have 5 or more children



HealthyNOW mentor and mentees taking a rest after playing and staying active in the YWCA Gymnasium.

There is a need for more mentors!

Contact Mindy Gardner, Mentoring Director, at bridges@cortlandnywca.org to learn more.

**Read about the LEAPS grant in ED Report.*

Mentoring

YWCA mentoring provides positive impacts on youth development by working preventively to improve confidence and self-esteem, to lessen the risk of experiencing serious problems later in life.

Bridges for Kids (BFK) provides individual and group mentoring for children living in stressful home situations. Adult volunteers give the one-on-one attention so crucial to building self-esteem in children ages 5-12. Together, they participate in enrichment activities designed to increase confidence and resiliency skills in youth.

Girls: Empowered, Motivated, Successful (GEMS) is a support group for girls to share experiences, collaborate, get creative, and serve their community. They're working to make smart life choices and become confident leaders.

In 2024, services were expanded to YWCA Child Care's after-school programs at Randall and Smith through the NYS LEAPS* grant. The GEMS program continued at both Homer and Randall schools, as well as in an adapted trauma-informed version for residents of AVV's Grace Brown House.

Boards: Directors & Trustees

Board of Directors

Kristina Marty

President

Cathy Bischoff

Vice President & Treasurer

Phuong-Binh Duong

Recording Secretary

Nimisha Muttiah

Corresponding Secretary

Camilla Morgan

Immediate Past President

Kris Valentine Behnke

Elizabeth Brando

Robin Cataldo

Susan Cerretani

Gloria Gartenlaub

Barbara Henza

Cristin Marshall

Gina Sikora

Pam Smith

Katherine Stemm

Jennifer Turck

Carrie Whitmore

Kathie Wilcox

Board of Trustees

Angela Loh

President

Alice Anderson

Secretary

Joseph Compagni

Treasurer

Carol Janik

Immediate Past President

Mary Ellen Bloodgood

Merle McKown

Sue Sherman-Broyles

Lists boards as of May 12, 2025

Executive & Supervisory Staff

Kelly Tobin

Executive Director

Julie Ryan

Finance Director

Peg Davis

Asst. Finance Director

Robyn Hayes

Development Director

Patty Condon

Operations Manager

Nick Loomis

Property Supervisor

Brenna Ricci

Community Wellness Dir.

Tya Phillips

Aquatics Supervisor

Jessica Smith

Aid to Victims of Violence

(AVV) Director

Heather Silvanic

AVV Senior Advocate

Kyra Upah

AVV Grace Brown House

Case Manager

Jami Bistocchi

Child Care Director

Taylor Jandrew

School Age Supervisor

Stacey Rorick

Here We Grow Supervisor

Mindy Gardner

Mentoring Director

Connect with Us



WEBSITE
cortlandywca.org



INSTAGRAM
ywcacortlandny



FACEBOOK
cortlandywca

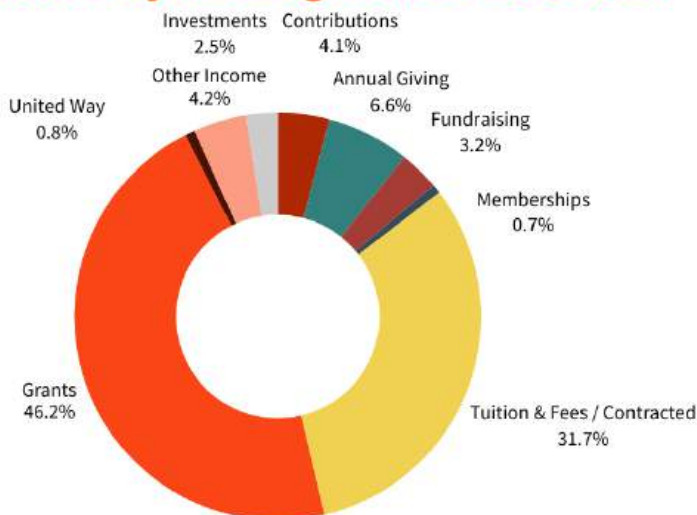


NEXTDOOR
YWCA Cortland

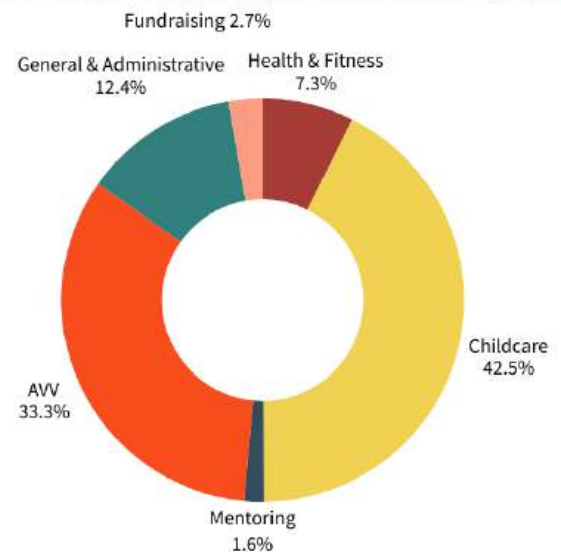
Thank you for making a difference!

Supporters LIKE YOU play an important role in creating a secure foundation for our YWCA. Because of YOU, we are able to provide vital programs and services that meet the ever-changing needs of our Cortland area community.

Revenue by Funding Source: \$3,667,354



Expenses by Department: \$3,653,013



04

MAIL

14 Clayton Ave
Cortland, NY 13045

PHONE/FAX

607 . 753 . 9651
607 . 753 . 8774

EMAIL

info@cortlandywca.org
Full staff directory on website

24-HOUR HOTLINE

607 . 756 . 6363

Annual Report Executive Director Message Continued

Continued from Annual Report:

Their compassion, tenacity, and care are the foundation of everything we do. From daily service delivery to long-term visioning, their efforts ensure that our mission lives and breathes in the lives of those we serve.

We've also taken important steps to improve the infrastructure that supports our mission. Thanks to **Senator Lea Webb's office** and a grant from the **Department of Criminal Justice Services**, we began this year a \$100,000 **IT infrastructure upgrade**, which includes the installation of a **robust new security system at our main campus**. These upgrades are essential to ensuring that our organization is both safe and future-ready. In addition, we're preparing to launch a **new agency-wide software system** that will streamline operations and better serve our participants.

This year also brought us a new community tradition with the launch of **Walk the Walk with the YWCA**, our newest 4k walk and peer-to-peer fundraiser designed to bring people together in shared purpose while raising vital funds for our programs. It was a joyful, energizing event—and just the beginning of what we hope will be an enduring expression of solidarity and community care.

These accomplishments are not just highlights—they are proof of what we can achieve when we unite around a common goal, driven by courage, compassion, and shared responsibility.

At the same time, we know our work does not exist in a vacuum. We are operating in a climate today where conversations about race and equity are being silenced, where critical programs are under threat, and where the values we uphold are being tested daily. These challenges are very real—and they make our mission more urgent than ever.

At YWCA Cortland, we do not step back. We move forward—grounded in purpose, strengthened by community, and carried by a team whose dedication inspires us every day. This movement needs every voice, every hand, every heart.

Thank you for walking this path with us. As you read through this report, may you be reminded of how far we've come—and inspired by all that we can still achieve, together.

With determination and hope,
Kelly Tobin

1914 Legacy Society Members

Sustaining the Future for Generations to Come

Alice Anderson
Charlie Anderson
Catherine Bertini

Carol Janik
Angela Loh
Kathryn C. McMahon

Anonymous
Amy Simrell
Katherine Stemm



YWCA Cortland has been serving the changing needs of our community since 1914. With your dedicated support, together we'll continue working to improve the lives of girls and women for generations to come!

Members of the 1914 Legacy Society Planned Giving Program have included YWCA Cortland in their estate plans or made a legacy gift during their lifetime to support the endowment or a specific YWCA program or initiative.

To leave YOUR legacy, please contact Robyn Hayes at 607.753.9651 ext. 118 or robyn@cortlandywca.org.

2024 Giving Circle Members

January 1—December 31, 2024

Thank you for your generous gifts and your passion for YWCA Cortland's mission!

*Karla Alwes	Sara Earl	Jackie May	Ann Siegle
Alice Anderson	Catherine Farber	Edie McMahon	Victor Siegle
Charles Anderson	Jacqueline Ferguson	Michael McMahon	*Amy Simrell
Anthony Argentine	Margaret Fragnoli	*Merle McKown	Harry Simrell
Janice Argentine	Jeffrey Fredrickson	*Camilla Morgan	Lisa Snyder
*Sandra Attleson	Melody Fredrickson	*Paul Mosbo	Scott Snyder
Nancy Aumann	Gonda Gebhardt	*Lynn New	Kathleen Stapleton
Catherine Baranello	Deborah Geibel	Judith Niederhofer	Michael Stapleton
*Anonymous	Stephen Geibel	Brenda Nobles	Connie Steger
*Mary Beilby	Nancy Governali	Suzette Pace	Katherine Stemm
*Catherine Bertini	Laura Hathaway	Stella Partis	*John Sternfeld
Christine (Hannon) Betar	Charlotte Hawkins	Nanette Pasquarello	*Nancy Sternfeld
Mary Ellen Bloodgood	*Judy Hayes	Beverley Patrick	Kimberly Stevens
*Marcia Bulger	Robyn Hayes	Cheryl "Chopper" Payne	Kathleen Tavarone
Jeanne Cameron	Joy Hendrick	Paul Pitkin	*Virginia Testa
Julie Campbell	Bonni Hodges	Christine Place	Angela Thurlow
Christine Cecconi	Sandra Holland	James Place	Antoinette Tiburzi
Susan Cerretani	*Carol Janik	*Andrea Rankin	Brian Tobin
Trudi Ciccoricco	*Hubert Keen	Sandra Ripic	Kelly Tobin
*James Clark	*Sally Keen	Julie Ryan	*Carol Van Der Karr
*Joseph Compagni	Laurie Klotz	*Evelyn Sammons	*Ellen Van Der Karr
*Katherine Compagni	*Nancy Kroot	*Maria San Jule	Diane Van Houten
*Susan Deer	Anonymous	Dorothy Sarvay	Jule Van Sant
*Marilyn DeLorenzo	*Mary Leary	Kathleen Sharer	Deborah Wines
Peggy Dennis	*Angela Loh	*Elizabeth Sharp	Sandra Wohlleber
Steven Ealick	Donna Margine	Candace Shedd Vancko	Ginny Wright
Forrest Earl	Mary Lee Martens	*Sue Sherman-Broyles	Linda Zupal

YWCA Cortland's Giving Circle is a group of like-minded individuals who come together to make a larger philanthropic impact than is possible individually.

Giving Circle members each donate \$1,000+ in a calendar year. Those with an asterisk each gave \$2,000+ in 2024.

To join the 2025 Giving Circle, please contact Robyn Hayes at 607.753.9651 ext. 118 or robyn@cortlandywca.org.

Thank you to our 2024 Grant Funders!

Jim & Julie Boeheim Foundation (\$5000 Mentoring)

Cortland Community Foundation (\$10000 1st Place Philanthropy Day Contest Prize)

Cortland Rotary Breakfast Club (\$1500 Child Care)

Cortland Rotary Noon Club (\$500 AVV; \$500 Mentoring)

King's Daughters (\$2000 Child Care)

M&T Charitable Foundation (\$2500 AVV)

Pomeroy Foundation (\$1950 Historic Marker)

Triad Foundation (\$5000 Child Care)

Ralph Wilkins Foundation (\$3412 H&F ADA pool steps)

Yaman Foundation (\$11900 H&F pool heater)

Zonta Club of Cortland (\$2750 AVV; \$1750 Mentoring)

AVV (Aid to Victims of Violence); H&F (Health & Fitness)

Thank you to our 2024 Corporate Partners & Sponsors!

We encourage you to support the businesses that support YOUR local YWCA.

Empower Partner



Sue Sherman-Broyles

Sue Loves Sellers and Buyers



LICENSED ASSOCIATE REAL ESTATE BROKER
RESORT SECOND-HOME PROPERTY SPECIALIST
SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALIST

Persimmon Partners



GUTHRIE



Cortland Eye Center
Optical Boutique

Platinum & Presenting Sponsors

BorgWarner (CTS)

Coffee Mania (CTS)

Economy Paving (PnP)

EDF Renewables Homer Solar Project (GDO)

NBT Bank (PnP)

Visions Federal Credit Union (UJJI)

Below you will find a legend for YWCA events the business supporters listed above sponsored in 2024:

Until Justice Just Is: Stand Against Racism (UJJI) / Girls Day Out (GDO)

Pig-n-Par Golf Tournament (PnP) / Chefs Take a Stand (CTS)

Gold Sponsors

Christopher Community, Inc. (CTS)
Grace Christian Fellowship (PnP)
Port, Kashdin & McSherry CPA's (PnP)
Stiles Contracting of Central NY LLC (CTS)

Silver Sponsors

Beak & Skiff Apple Orchards (PnP) / Beck Equipment (GDO, UJJI)
Cayuga Health (CTS, PnP) / Contento's (PnP) / Cortland Hearing Aids (CTS)
D & L Landscaping (PnP) / Harbor Summit Financial (PnP)
NYCM Insurance (GDO) / Plan First Technologies (GDO)
Robinson Family Jewelers (PnP) / Seven Valleys Health Coalition (CTS)
Thoma Development Consultants (GDO)
Tompkins Cortland Community College (CTS)
Visions Federal Credit Union (GDO)

Bronze Sponsors

Bailey Place Insurance (PnP) / James J. Baranello Law Office (GDO) / Cortland Area Chamber of Commerce (PnP)
Cortland County Board of Realtors (PnP) / Cortland Health Center (GDO) / Crown Construction (CTS)
Dental Arts Group (PnP) / Dryden Mutual Insurance (CTS) / DuVall Law Offices PC (CTS)
Fadden & Associates P.T., PLLC (GDO) / Family Planning of South Central NY (GDO)
The First National Bank of Dryden (GDO) / Josie's Journey (GDO) / Kiwanis Club of Cortland (CTS)
Leach's Custom Trash Service (CTS) / McNeil & CO. (PnP) / Meldrim's Paint Center (CTS)
Premier Property Service (CTS) / Sciarabba Walker & Co., LLP (GDO) / Seven Valley Dental (GDO)
Sarah Tillotson, LCSW-R (GDO) / Tompkins Community Bank (CTS) / Law offices of S. Francis Williams (CTS)

Corporate Golf Teams

C&D Assembly Inc. (PnP) / Cargill (PnP) / Cross Excavation (PnP) / Head & Heal (PNP)
Holmes, King, Kallquist & Associates, Architects (PnP) / McNeil Development Company (PnP)
Racker (PnP) / ROM-27 (PnP) / Tompkins Community Bank (PnP) / WNDG (PnP)

Below you will find a legend for YWCA events the business supporters listed above sponsored in 2024:

Until Justice Just Is: Stand Against Racism (UJJI) / Girls Day Out (GDO)

Pig-n-Par Golf Tournament (PnP) / Chefs Take a Stand (CTS)