

# 2026 WOMEN UNITED GRANT APPLICATION FORM

## Organization Information

**Organization Name**

YWCA Lancaster

**EIN**

23-1352609

**Project Name**

YWCA Lancaster -

**Address**

110 N Lime Street  
Lancaster, Pennsylvania 19468  
United States

**Contact Name**

Christine Riley-Anderson

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**Executive Director / President (If different)**

Stacie Blake

## Eligibility Criteria

**Is your organization a registered nonprofit organization with an official letter of determination of 501c3 status from the Internal Revenue Service?**

Yes

**Has your organization operated in Lancaster County for at least one year (operating in Lancaster before July 1, 2025)?**

Yes

**Does your organization or program you are requesting funding for in this application serve primarily women and/ or teen girls?**

Yes

**Does your organization provide services to families at or below the ALICE threshold in Lancaster County?**

Yes

**Is your organization delinquent on any state or federal debt?**

No

**Does your organization share United Way's view of collaborative and inclusive service to the entire community, without excluding anyone on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, ethnicity, national**

**origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or any other factor not relevant to a person's eligibility for service or ability to contribute?**

Yes

**Has your organization update your listing with PA 211 in the last 12 months?**

Yes

## **Application Elements**

### **Executive Summary**

YWCA Lancaster requests \$20,000 to support the Sexual Assault Prevention and Counseling Center (SAPCC) in promoting women's and teen girls' health initiatives across Lancaster County. SAPCC provides trauma-informed counseling, 24/7 crisis response, and medical and legal advocacy for survivors of sexual assault and violence, directly addressing the physical, emotional, and mental health impacts of trauma. Prevention education in schools and community workshops teaches consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention, reducing risk and promoting long-term wellness. This initiative strengthens access to care, supports healing, and advances health, safety, and equity, empowering women and teen girls to lead healthier, safer lives.

### **Organization Description**

Mission: YWCA Lancaster is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

Since 1889, YWCA Lancaster has been a cornerstone of support, advocacy, and opportunity in Lancaster County, working to eliminate racism and empower women. What began as a safe space for women seeking housing and employment has grown into a dynamic, community-centered organization addressing some of today's most pressing social needs.

YWCA Lancaster now serves thousands of individuals each year through four core program areas. The Child Enrichment Center provides high-quality early childhood education and school-age care, helping children build strong academic and social foundations. The Kepler Hall Residence & Emergency Shelter offers affordable housing and emergency shelter for women and single-parent families, creating stability during times of transition.

Through the Center for Racial and Gender Equity (CRGE), YWCA Lancaster delivers education, training, and community dialogue that advance equity and inclusion across the region.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Counseling Center (SAPCC) serves as Lancaster County's designated rape crisis center, providing free, confidential counseling, advocacy, and prevention education to survivors and the broader community. Services are available to adults and children of all genders who have experienced sexual abuse, harassment, or assault; to significant others; to individuals who identify as LGBTQ+; and to those with physical, cognitive, or intellectual disabilities. Individuals with limited English proficiency or those who use languages other than English including ASL and augmentative/alternative communication devices are fully supported.

Collectively, YWCA Lancaster reaches more than 10,000 people annually, offering critical services that promote safety, education, and empowerment. Grounded in a mission that has endured for more than a century, YWCA Lancaster continues to evolve alongside the community building a future where all individuals have the opportunity to thrive, free from violence, inequity, and discrimination.

### **Commitment to Equity**

YWCA Lancaster serves a diverse population across Lancaster County, focusing on communities most impacted by systemic inequities. Approximately 60-65% of those served identify as Black or African American, 20-25% as Latino/a or Hispanic, and the remainder as White or multiracial. Most participants are women and children, many in single-mother households. Over 70% are low- to moderate-income, with many experiencing housing instabilities. A significant number live in the City of Lancaster, where poverty exceeds 25%, and many households are bilingual.

SAPCC's critical services are vital, as 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 girls experience sexual violence in their lifetime. Offering trauma-informed counseling, school-based prevention, and community education focused on consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention, supporting survivors while working to prevent future violence. These services also advance women's health by addressing the physical, emotional, and mental health impacts of sexual violence and improving access to care and long-term wellness.

YWCA Lancaster reflects the community it serves through diverse staff, culturally responsive programming, and by elevating community voice through participant feedback and ongoing engagement. This work aligns with disparities identified in the Lancaster County Racial Equity Profile, helping build safer, healthier, and more equitable communities.

## Proposal Details

### Main Priority Area

Women's and/ or Teen's Health

### Grant Dollar Amount Requested

\$20,000.00

### What percent of the overall project budget is covered by the Women United grant?

2

### Will this program/project start or continue to operate if you do not receive 100% of the funding requested?

Yes

## Project Description

The proposed project is a continuation and expansion of our existing comprehensive sexual assault crisis intervention and prevention programming, with an intentional emphasis on supporting women and teen girls in Lancaster County. This work responds to the ongoing and urgent need for trauma-informed services, prevention education, and accessible support systems for survivors of sexual violence, particularly those who face increased vulnerability due to age, gender, and intersecting social factors.

Why this work is needed:

Women and teen girls continue to experience disproportionately high rates of sexual violence, while also facing significant barriers to reporting, accessing care, and receiving long-term support. Many survivors encounter stigma, fear of retaliation, lack of culturally responsive services, and limited knowledge of available resources. For teens especially, early intervention and education are critical to preventing cycles of abuse and promoting healthy relationships. This program addresses these gaps by ensuring that survivors have immediate access to compassionate crisis response while also strengthening prevention efforts that reduce risk and increase awareness.

What we will do:

The project will provide 24/7 crisis intervention services, including a confidential hotline, emergency advocacy, hospital accompaniment, and safety planning for survivors. We will also offer ongoing counseling referrals, support groups, and case management to help survivors stabilize and begin healing. In addition, we will expand prevention education programs in schools and community settings. These sessions will cover consent, healthy relationships, digital safety, boundary setting, and bystander intervention. We will also engage caregivers, educators, and community partners to reinforce a coordinated response network.

How we will implement the work:

Services will be delivered by trained, trauma-informed advocates who specialize in supporting survivors of sexual violence. School-based and community workshops will be facilitated through interactive, age-appropriate curricula designed to engage teen girls in safe and empowering discussions. Partnerships with schools, healthcare providers, and community organizations will ensure effective referral pathways and coordinated care. Continuous training, supervision, and data-informed program adjustments will ensure high-quality service delivery and responsiveness to community needs.

This initiative aligns with the Priority Area goal of improving safety, health, and well-being through prevention and intervention strategies. Our work directly advances the strategy of expanding equitable access to trauma-informed services and strengthening community-based prevention education, ultimately fostering safer environments for women and teen girls.

## Collaboration

SAPCC actively collaborates with a wide network of community partners to provide comprehensive, survivor-centered

services that advance the health and well-being of women and teen girls. Key collaborations include local hospitals, law enforcement agencies, the District Attorney's Office, Lancaster County school districts, and social service organizations. These partnerships ensure immediate, trauma-informed support for survivors, including accompaniment during forensic exams, legal proceedings, and connections to medical, mental health, and advocacy services. SAPCC also engages in committees, boards, and task forces focused on sexual violence prevention, victim advocacy, and public health initiatives, including the Lancaster County Children's Alliance, anti-trafficking task forces, and school-based safety committees. Participation in these groups enables coordination of strategies, sharing of best practices, and elevation of survivor voices in shaping community policies.

Collaboration with culturally specific and youth-serving organizations ensures linguistically appropriate and culturally responsive services, reaching populations disproportionately affected by inequities. SAPCC also partners with local colleges, community organizations, and the YWCA Center for Racial and Gender Equity to deliver prevention education, training, and public awareness initiatives. Through these partnerships, SAPCC strengthens the safety net, reduces service duplication, and expands access to holistic, equitable care for survivors.

### **Implementation Plan**

SAPCC delivers a comprehensive, survivor-centered program designed specifically to advance the health, safety, and well-being of women and teen girls across Lancaster County. Our 24/7 sexual assault crisis hotline ensures that women and teen girls have immediate access to trauma-informed support, emotional guidance, and connections to counseling, medical care, and legal advocacy at any time. Individual and group counseling is tailored to the unique needs of women and teen girls, addressing the physical, emotional, and mental health impacts of sexual violence with culturally responsive, trauma-informed approaches.

Medical and legal advocacy provides accompaniment to hospitals for forensic exams and to court proceedings, ensuring survivors receive consistent support while navigating complex systems. Prevention and education programs focus on school-based instruction for all students, including teen girls, teaching consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention, while community workshops and professional trainings extend these messages to parents, educators, and organizations that serve women and girls.

Outreach will prioritize underserved populations through partnerships with culturally specific and youth-serving organizations, ensuring linguistically appropriate and culturally responsive services. Through coordinated community response efforts, SAPCC will streamline services, improve outcomes, and promote safer, healthier communities for women and girls.

### **Outcomes & Evaluation**

#### Outcomes & Evaluation

##### a. Outcomes

SAPCC's services directly support the health and well-being of women and teen girls in Lancaster County by addressing the physical, emotional, and mental health impacts of sexual assault and violence. SAPCC aims to:

- Increase access to trauma-informed counseling, crisis response, and advocacy for women and teen girls who have experienced sexual assault or violence.
- Deliver prevention education focused on consent, healthy relationships, and personal safety to students and community members.

Tangible outcomes include:

- Serving over 1,500 survivors annually, with over 60% being women and teen girls, through counseling, advocacy, and crisis intervention.
- Providing prevention education to 3,000+ students and community members, emphasizing risk reduction and healthy behaviors.

Increasing engagement of underserved women and teen girls in supportive services.

These services result in measurable improvements in survivors' mental health, resilience, and access to medical, legal, and social resources. Teen girls and women gain knowledge of consent, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention, contributing to long-term physical, emotional, and social well-being.

##### b. Evaluation

Program effectiveness will be evaluated using the following metrics:

- Number of women and teen girls served through counseling, therapy, and advocacy.
- Number of hotline calls, crisis responses, and SAFE exam accompaniments.
- Participation in prevention programs and workshops, with pre- and post-assessments measuring knowledge,

attitudes, and behavior changes.

- Demographic data to ensure equitable reach among high-risk and underserved populations.

- Client feedback and satisfaction surveys assessing perceived improvement in safety, coping skills, and overall wellness.

Data will be collected, tracked, and analyzed using SAPCC's ETO database, reviewed quarterly by staff, and used to adjust programming to maximize impact. This evaluation framework ensures accountability while demonstrating meaningful health improvements for women and teen girls across Lancaster County.

## **Documents**

### **Required Documents**

- [IRS-Determination-for-YWCA.pdf](#)
- [YWCA-Lancaster-2025-2026-SAPCC-Budget.pdf](#)
- [2026-Board-of-Directors.pdf](#)
- [YWCA-Lancaster-2025-2026-Board-Approved-Budget.pdf](#)
- [YWCA-Audited-Financials-6-30-2025.pdf](#)