

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

150
YEARS | no easy task
no ordinary organization

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YWCA USA Says “Enough!” to Violence Against Women YWCA *Week Without Violence*™ slated for Oct. 18--25

Washington, DC –The YWCA USA and its nearly 300 local associations will mark their 2009 YWCA *Week Without Violence*™ on October 18-25.

“Violence affects women and girls of this country on an epic scale,” said Lorraine Cole, PhD, YWCA USA CEO. “It is time to put a stop to this epidemic. We are saying ‘Enough!’”

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, one in five of teenagers and young women have been a victim of some form of dating violence and almost 189,000 are victims of sexual assault and rape annually.

The YWCA Week Without Violence™ is a nationwide annual campaign that highlights practical, sustainable alternatives to violence in our homes, schools, workplaces and communities. Local YWCA associations will provide comprehensive resources to millions of people around the country to help them eradicate violence from their lives and communities. A grassroots initiative when it began in 1995, the YWCA Week Without Violence™ is a global campaign involving hundreds of American communities and countries around the world.

YWCA USA is a national not-for-profit membership organization that provides social services, advocacy, education and leadership development. It is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. Established in the United States in 1858, the YWCA is the oldest and largest national women’s organization, and celebrating its 150th anniversary. Through its nearly 300 affiliated local YWCAs and its headquarters in Washington, D.C., the YWCA serves 2.5 million women and girls each year. Globally, the YWCA USA is a member of World YWCA, which has affiliates in 103 countries that serve 25 million women and girls worldwide. Visit www.ywca.org. Contact: Nancy Loving, at 202-467-0801, cell 202-641-1845 or nloving@ywca.org.

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