



2019 Leadership for Social Change Program Fact Sheet

"There must exist a paradigm, a practical model for social change that includes an understanding of ways to transform consciousness that are linked to efforts to transform structures."

— bell hooks, *killing rage: Ending Racism*

PROGRAM PURPOSE

The YWCA story is quite remarkable. In 1886, five women decided to take a stand to eliminate racism and empower women. They created a home for 25 young women who had recently moved to Columbus and were looking for a safe place to stay. They had a bold vision, they took action, and their efforts made a lasting impact. 131 years later, YWCA Columbus stands as a testament to their spirit and leadership. The Leadership for Social Change program honors the legacy of those women. Through this mission, the YWCA has an obligation to grow the next generation of women leaders in Central Ohio.

Leadership for Social Change is designed to:

- 1) Recruit, inform and empower a diverse group of advocates to become the next generation of leaders in Central Ohio, who can identify needs for social change and effectively develop strategies to address these needs;
- 2) Educate participants about the critical factors that create and perpetuate inequalities in our community (which include, but are not limited to racism, sexism, etc...); and
- 3) Connect young leaders to a network and resources that will support their leadership endeavors for social change

Through the Leadership for Social Change program, participants will be trained and prepared with the skills to create change in our community. Participants will hear from a diverse set of facilitators that will provide best practices in social justice advocacy and leadership. Participants will complete a ten-hour service project that challenges them to further develop their leadership skills through hands-on partnership with other non-profit leadership teams.

ABOUT THE YWCA

The YWCA Columbus was established in 1886 to meet the housing and social needs of young women moving from farms to the urban community. The YWCA has played a leading role in our community, meeting critical needs in housing, childcare, women's leadership training and racial justice. Our mission of "eliminating racism and empowering women" drives programming and services, reflecting the values of peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all people. We offer supportive services that include emergency shelter for up to 65 homeless families at our Family Center; and housing and supportive services for more than approximately 70 women who were formerly homeless or have a mental disability. Other programs and services include racial justice training and childcare. The YWCA also offers an extensive list of leadership training and programming for women of all ages. All of the Y's work is grounded in the elementary belief that all people have value and potential and the organization helps ensure that they have full access and opportunity to contribute to the best of their ability. We proudly carry out our mission every day.

THE IDEAL APPLICANT

The ideal applicant is an emerging leader in her 20's or early 30's at the beginning of her career and leadership journey. She has a desire to be involved in the Columbus community through her professional and community service and wants to effect positive social change. **Applicants will, preferably, have little to no formal leadership development training in academic, community, or work settings.** Their passion for social change will align with YWCA's mission of eliminating racism and empowering women, and the candidate will be able to fully commit to meeting once a month during the 10 month-program.

PROGRAM COST

Tuition for the 2019 cohort is \$150ⁱ.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM AND TIME COMMITMENT

Between 15 and 20 participants will be selected for the Leadership for Social Change Program. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in discussion with each other, workshop presenters, and Columbus community leaders around a myriad of social justice and personal development topics.

The program seeks to support emerging leaders who bring new ideas, methods and energy to social change work. Throughout the duration of the program and beyond, participants will be challenged to do the following:

- Participate in workshops facilitated by those working with social change organizations, particularly grass-roots and community-based groups, to enhance their confidence to actively participate in democratic processes;
- Strive to strengthen their ability to help shape progressive policies in the communities in which they live and work;
- Develop theoretical and practical knowledge/approaches to leadership and social change.
- Identify and work collaboratively with local social service, education, and governmental agencies to participate in movement building work;
- Contribute to changing discourses in various workplace environments to endorse progressive social justice values.
- Participate in a ten-hour service project that will require participants to identify a creative way to utilize their leadership skills and passions to benefit a local non-profit organization.

This 10-month learning experience will include formal and informal learning opportunities for participants. Program components will appeal to a variety of leadership learning styles and may include, but not be limited to, personal and professional development, experiential learning, fundraising, mentorship and networking.

EXPECTATIONS

Leadership for Social Change participants are expected to do the following:

- To miss no more than three of all scheduled meetings and events including the mandatory opening retreat on **February 1st and 2nd 2019** the mandatory closing retreat on **November 9th 2019**
- Fully participate in all discussions, activities and mentoring/networking opportunities
- Complete all the requirements of the leadership service project
- Be open to new ideas and points of view

MEETING DAYS, TIMES AND LOCATIONS

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>
Applications Available	<i>Monday, October 15th 2018</i>	
Applications Due	<i>Friday, November 30th 2018</i>	
Notification of Acceptance	<i>Friday, December 14th 2018</i>	
SESSION 1 Opening Retreat	<i>Friday February 1st to Saturday February 2nd</i>	<i>5:00pm to 12:00pm</i>
SESSION 2	<i>Thursday, March 14th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
Women of Achievement	<i>Wednesday, April 3rd 2019</i>	<i>TBA</i>
SESSION 3	<i>Thursday, April 11th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 4	<i>Thursday, May 9th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 5	<i>Thursday, June 13th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 6	<i>Thursday, July 11th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 7	<i>Thursday, August 8th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 8	<i>Thursday, Sept. 9th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 9	<i>Thursday, Oct. 10th 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>
SESSION 10 Closing Retreat	<i>Saturday, Nov. 09, 2019</i>	<i>10:00pm to 2:00pm</i>
Graduation & Holiday Party	<i>Thursday, Dec. 12, 2019</i>	<i>5:30pm to 8:00pm</i>

**Schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the program staff.*

COST

Upon acceptance into the Leadership for Social Change program, each participant is required to pay a program tuition of \$150 due no later than **Friday, February 1st, 2019**.ⁱⁱ

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants submit their application by 5:00pm on **Friday November 30th, 2018**.

A completed application will include the following:

- Application
- Resume
- One (1) letter of reference from non-family members (employer, mentor, spiritual leader, community service organization, etc...)

The application can be found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LSC2019>

Please contact Lauren James with any additional questions.

YWCA Columbus
Attention: Lauren James
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ⁱ Scholarships are available for those demonstrating economic hardship. Please inquire for details.

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