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World YWCA Day: April 24

*Honouring Women Leaders*



### world YWCA day: honouring women leaders

*Is there a leader who has inspired you to action?  
Is there a woman in your YWCA who deserves to be honoured?*

Since 1999 YWCAs around the world have been working to build a fund of USD 25 million that will invest in the movement's top priority – empowering women and girls to lead social change around the world. In July 2007 at the World Council in Nairobi, Kenya, we want to celebrate a significant benchmark in building this fund, the magic \$ 10 million - the point at which income from the fund will be used by YWCAs to expand the leadership development of women and girls.

To date, \$ 7 million has been raised and a Swiss foundation has issued a challenge grant of USD 1 million, which will be awarded when we reach \$ 9 million. To access this challenge grant, we must raise \$ 2 million.

**Can we get there by June 2007?** With your help, we can! And let's do it by honouring those exceptional and exemplary leaders in our YWCAs who have made a difference in our lives and in the lives of others.

We ask you to join with other women in your YWCA to identify an outstanding leader in your country and honour her by sharing her story and making a significant donation to the Leadership Permanent Fund in her name. All women honoured in this way will be compiled into an honour roll of women leaders which will be displayed at the World Council and on the World YWCA website. It will also be placed in the World YWCA archives, so that her contribution will always be remembered.

**The World YWCA Day, April 24** is a wonderful opportunity for your association to announce and celebrate the women you choose to honor at World Council. By holding a special event on April 24, your association can involve the community in celebrating their women leaders. Around the world, on this day, women will be celebrated in their communities as we prepare to honour them in

Look out for event ideas on our website in February



\$2 million by June 2007!

<p>June at World Council.</p> <p>For more information contact: <a href="mailto:joyce.feinberg@worldywca.org">joyce.feinberg@worldywca.org</a></p> <p style="text-align: right;">&gt; <a href="#">back to top</a></p>	
<p><b>world council</b></p>	<p><b>deadlines</b></p>
<p><b>Submit your Nomination Forms today!</b>  Have you submitted your Nomination Form? The deadline to receive nominations for both the Nominating Committee (under existing Constitution) and for the Nominations Committee (under the proposed Constitution) is <b>January 31, 2007</b>.  Reminders from the Nominating Committee were sent in the last World Council mailing (mailing # 4).   Remember that it is policy that all World Council committees are made up of at least 25% young women 30 years old or under. We are also looking at ensuring balanced regional representation.   Under the proposed Constitution, the Nominations Committee shall be comprised of five (5) members, each from a different region, at least one of whom shall be aged thirty (30) years or under at the time of election.   <b>Registration Reminder</b>  Please remember that you need to register for all World Council related events in good time. This includes participation in the International Women's Summit and pre-council events.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">&gt; <a href="#">back to top</a></p>	<p><b>nomination: Jan 31</b></p> <p><b>registration: Jan 31</b></p> <p><b>workshops: Jan 31</b></p> <p><b>women leading change award: Feb 15</b></p>
<p><b>international women's summit</b></p>	<p><b>useful links</b></p>
<p><b>Submit a workshop proposal</b>  Over 61 workshop offers have already been received for the IWS. Workshops are the ideal platform for addressing critical issues for women and girls, and will enable learning and training opportunities to strengthen the capacity of associations and individuals to provide a more effective and comprehensive response to HIV and AIDS.   Topics will be based on five streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women's leadership in response to HIV and AIDS</li> <li>• Policy and advocacy</li> <li>• Prevention, treatment, care and support for women and girls</li> <li>• Lessons learnt from changing communities</li> <li>• Positive living</li> </ul> <p>Send your proposal <b>today</b> to avoid missing out on this opportunity</p>	<p>&gt;&gt; <a href="#">submit workshop form</a>  &gt;&gt; <a href="#">women leading change</a>  &gt;&gt; <a href="#">IWS</a>  &gt;&gt; <a href="#">news/updates</a></p>

to share your skills and promote the work of your association. The workshop submission form can be downloaded from [the website](#) or requested by emailing [iws@worldywca.org](mailto:iws@worldywca.org)

#### **Nominate a Leader**

The **Women Leading Change Awards**, one of the highlights of the IWS, will recognise and pay tribute to some of the least recognised actors in the effort to stamp out this global epidemic – the outstanding women and young women who are championing HIV and AIDS in their communities by demonstrating innovative and effective leadership.

The awards will celebrate exceptional leadership in the areas of prevention, care and treatment, advocacy and policy making as well as addressing gender inequality, stigma and discrimination. YWCAs are encouraged to submit nominations for these awards by completing the nomination form (available from the website) and forwarding it to the World YWCA no later than **February 15, 2007**. An international review panel is being established to review nominations and select award recipients.

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#### news

##### **[Kenyan government to support International Women's Summit](#)**

The Republic of Kenya's Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, Ms. Rachel Dzombo has launched her support behind the World YWCA's International Women's Summit and World Council meetings to be held in Nairobi, Kenya in July 2007. Visiting the World YWCA Office in Geneva on January 18, 2007 with Ms. Anne Ambwere, Commissioner for Social Service, Ms Dzombo affirmed the YWCA's work with women and girls relating it to the activities of her Ministry.

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##### **[More financial resources needed to support women, Dr. Kanyoro states at UNICEF publication launch](#)**

Dr. Musimibi Kanyoro, General Secretary World YWCA, challenged governments to provide sufficient funding to make the empowerment of women and children a reality. Speaking at the launch of the UNICEF annual publication, 'The State of the World's Children' in Geneva, Switzerland on December 11, Dr. Kanyoro stated that healthy, educated and empowered women have healthy, educated and confident daughters and sons. Her statement is confirmed by figures reported in the publication that show children of mothers with primary education are twice as likely to complete primary education than children whose mothers do not.

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#### **More news on our website:**

Visit World YWCA web site for more news on World YWCA and YWCAs: [www.worldywca.org](http://www.worldywca.org)

#### **From the Women's News Network**

Visit the Women's News Network for articles, reports and features on women's issues from around the globe. Currently on the network:

#### photos



Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Gender, Sports, Culture and Social Services, Ms. Rachel Dzombo (L), Dr. Musimbi Kanyoro (R)

- [Young women in the UK 'ignoring HIV threat'](#)
- [Seventh World Social Forum convenes in Nairobi, Kenya](#)
- [Women on the Move—New Evidence on the International Migration of Women](#)
- [Women \[in North America\] are Leading the Way to a New Career Model](#)

more news: [women's news network](#)

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### visits to world YWCA in January

**Xinia Brenes**, General Secretary of the YWCA of Costa Rica  
**Lott Törngren** and **Patrik Schröder**, YWCA/YMCA of Sweden

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### photos



Xinia Brenes



Lott



Patrik

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 please contact: [worldoffice@worldywca.org](mailto:worldoffice@worldywca.org)

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To submit items for the next bulletin: [communications@worldywca.org](mailto:communications@worldywca.org)

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