This spring, YWCA Boulder County broke ground on an expansion project adding two new permanent care classrooms to our existing facility. Included in the project was the redesign and construction of three Outdoor Learning Environments (OLEs) for the infant, toddler and preschool classrooms. We know how important outdoor active play is to the health and well-being of our students. We’d like to highlight Twisted Foundation who contributed generously, helping us meet a current fundraising match, which enabled us to raise the necessary funds to complete the OLEs. Our 28 new students starting this fall will have brand new interactive outdoor play areas to use when the doors open.

Knowing that the YWCA was working closely with Boulder County Public Health to ensure the health and safety of all of the children in their care during the COVID-19 crisis was a huge relief as well.

Eventually, as John’s school load increased their need for a more permanent care solution became more dire. Luckily, the staff at Persimmon told them about the YWCA’s plan to expand their program with two new permanent care classrooms scheduled to start in the fall. Persimmon staff had heard from many drop-in parents about the struggle to find affordable permanent care options in Boulder County. Because they learned about it early, John and Gloria were able to secure a CCAP (Child Care Assistance Program) spot in the toddler classroom giving them subsidized tuition they could afford. Jacob was the very first child enrolled in the new permanent classroom and they were relieved to have continuous care with teachers they trusted. They knew Jacob would thrive in his new environment and enjoy the daily healthy meals and snacks prepared by the YWCA’s onsite nutritionist as well as programs including active play, farm to ECE programs, field trips and lessons focused on the holistic development of the children.

*To protect the confidentiality of the families we serve, names have been changed to protect the privacy of our clients.*

**DONOR HIGHLIGHT**

**TWISTED FOUNDATION**

“Finding the funding for outdoor play areas is harder than for brick-and-mortar capital funding. Most foundations won’t fund that type of construction. Twisted Foundation’s generous support allowed us to finish the project on time, and we could not have done it without them. For this we are so grateful.”

—DEBBIE POPE, CEO, YWCA BOULDER COUNTY
**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**August 6, 1965**  
55 year anniversary of the 1965 Voting Rights Act

**August 24-December 7, 2020**  
Incredible Years free parenting classes online.

**August 25, 11:30am-1:00pm**  
Hear from nationally recognized voting rights expert and author Gilda Daniels and others to learn about past and current struggles for the right to vote, including voting rights for women of color.

**August 26, 2020**  
100 year anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment

**September 7-27, 2020**  
VIRTUAL Dash & Bash 2020 — Visit ywcadashbash.org to register starting 8/10!  
This year we are taking the Dash & Bash online so individuals and groups can fundraise together to fuel YWCA’s programs and services.  
> March, walk or run anytime and anywhere between Sept. 7 and Sept. 27  
> Easy-to-use online platform to create your own individual and team fundraising page  
> ONLINE celebration on Sunday, Sept. 27 at Noon MST, featuring keynote speaker Dolores Huerta, American labor and civil rights activist and co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association with César Chávez!  
Flexible corporate sponsorships are also available! Please contact Robyn Hazlitt at rhazlitt@ywcaboulder.org.

**October 18-24, 2020**  
YWCA Week Without Violence — Join YWCA’s global movement to end violence against women and girls.

**November 3, 2020**  
Election Day — Make your voice heard and your vote count in this year’s general election. Colorado voters may register up through Election Day. Check your voter registration at govotecolorado.gov/

**November 2020**  
Virtual Dancing with Boulder Stars — If you, or someone you know, would like to be one of our 2020 Stars, please contact Brittny Wilson at bwilson@ywcaboulder.org.

**March 2021**  
YWCA Annual Gala

**TBD**  
Being an Antiracist Virtual Training Series — To be notified of future classes, please complete the interest form at https://bit.ly/YWCABeingAntiracist

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**PERSIMMON EARLY LEARNING**

**Now Enrolling for the 2020-2021 School Year**

Start the enrollment process today to secure spots in our newly constructed permanent care classrooms opening next month!  
- Experiential, play-based program that supports child-led interests and child development with a Colorado Shines Level 4 rating.  
- Highly qualified teaching team works to strengthen all areas of child growth and pre-academic skills.  
- Permanent childcare classrooms will serve children eight weeks to 4 years old.  
- Healthy snacks and meals prepared daily from our on-site Nutrition Coordinator, and daily nutrition lessons and fitness with our Wellness Coordinator.  
- Small class sizes and strict adherence to Public Health guidelines

Visit our website and fill out our Interest Form to sign up for a virtual parent info session (held every other Wednesday), be notified of virtual tours (coming soon!), and begin the enrollment process today. Learn more at: ywcaboulder.org/what-were-doing/persimmon-early-learning/

For additional questions, please email Kate Hise at khise@ywcaboulder.org.
THE YWCA IS ON A MISSION.

During this unprecedented time of the convergence of voting rights anniversaries, social issues and critical community needs, YWCA is at the forefront of social justice across the country and here in Boulder County. Your interest, passion and support to advance racial justice in our community is the first step in our shared journey toward the elimination of racism.

We have started an intensive antiracist training program, and our first two groups of 70+ community members have successfully completed their training. The YWCA is committed to providing the resources, connecting points and action plans to keep moving racial justice forward.

Also, we have kept our commitment to Boulder County to provide affordable, quality childcare. The expansion project is moving rapidly, and we will be ready to welcome all our families to Persimmon Early Learning of the YWCA (formerly Children’s Alley) in September. The support of our generous donors is making this dream possible for all children and will have a lasting impact.

Finally, our programming to ensure girls of color have opportunities for the careers of the future has celebrated a milestone, with 24 young girls completing more than 600 technology badges and 350+ hours of STEM and coding programs during the STEM e3 program in May and June. It is so impressive to see these young girls discovering their talents, confidence, and possible futures in STEM related fields.

Moving into the fall, the YWCA and Michelle Obama are teaming up our efforts for the Get Out the Vote efforts. As we commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment, giving some women the right the vote, we are committed to ensuring all women have the information, accessibility, and support to cast their ballot.

On a more personal note, thank you all for the incredible support you have demonstrated to the YWCA, our team, and our community.

With Deepest Appreciation,

Debbie Pope
CEO, YWCA Boulder County

A Year of Pivotal Voting Rights Anniversaries—19th Amendment & Voting Rights Act of 1965

This year as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment (1920), we also reflect on intersectionality in advancing equal rights. While we celebrate women’s suffrage and the leaders who came before us, let’s remember that not all women were granted the right to vote in 1920. In some Southern states, black women were unable to freely exercise their right to vote until the 1960s, and Native Americans were not guaranteed the right to vote until 1965. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 helped strengthen voting rights, however the Supreme Court’s decision in Shelby County v. Holder (2013) dismantled a key provision requiring states with a history of racial bias in voting to get permission before passing new voting laws. We continue to see new attempts to eviscerate and restrict voting protections, and it’s more important than ever for organizations, like the YWCA, and individuals to advocate tirelessly to protect the right to vote.
**PERSIMMON EARLY LEARNING**

Formerly Children’s Alley

**ENROLLING NOW**

Spots available for children ages 8 weeks–4 years.

303-449-1951

YWCA BOULDER VIRTUAL 5K 2020

20 DAYS—ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

March, walk, or run by yourself or with a group between Labor Day, Sept. 7–Sept. 27 and fundraise to fuel YWCA's programs and services.

**Online Closing Celebration – September 27th @ noon**

Keynote speaker — Living legend, Dolores Huerta American labor and civil rights activist and co-founder of the National Farmworkers Association with César Chávez!

Free registration for teams or individuals: ywcadashbash.org