

eliminating racism  
empowering women

**ywca**

cambridge, ma

FY 2022

**ANNUAL REPORT**



# Welcome

Dear Friends of YWCA Cambridge,

2022 marked YWCA Cambridge's 130th anniversary. We were thrilled to mark it with a return to in-person programming and celebrations, rejoicing together in a way that was markedly absent during the prior two years. Our building greeted many of you during our resident holiday parties, and we brought the party with us to the Blue Owl Rooftop Bar for our 28th Tribute to Outstanding Women.

For 130 years YWCA Cambridge has been committed to serving its community, fostering community and celebrating its community through its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. For 130 years we've provided housing and shelter in Cambridge, and we are proud to still be the City's largest affordable housing provider for single women.

In 2022 we increased our housing capacity from January's 72% occupancy at Tanner Residence, our 103-unit Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) building, to 98% by December. We brought on a resident service coordinator and hosted our first benefit concert with the Longwood Symphony Orchestra, treating residents to a beautiful night out while raising critical funds to support our housing operations. Our Renae's Place family shelter staff defied the odds by successfully placing 40% of our families into permanent housing despite Massachusetts's ongoing housing crisis.

Our advocacy department worked tirelessly to respond to attacks on our civil rights through leading the MA State Advocacy Alliance of YWCAs and partnering with a number of coalitions to ensure the voices of those rarely listened to were heard. Through joint advocacy efforts, we successfully pushed for the Fair Share Amendment and Driver's License Bill to pass.

Our youth leadership department wrapped up the pilot year of our Gender Expansive Youth (GEY) program, which stemmed from an ongoing demand and absence of programs centering trans and gender-diverse youth, and then quickly kicked off another exciting year of GEY alongside our longstanding Gold leadership program.

As YWCA Cambridge looks onward to its next 130 years, we invite you to stay connected and engaged with our steady progress towards eliminating racism and empowering women. As you skim the pages of our annual report, remember that the stories and successes of our clients are fueled by the collective power of our immediate team and our vast network of support.

We are honored to serve and uplift our clients and our community, and we are grateful you have joined us on this journey.

Thank you for being a vital member of our YWCA Cambridge family.



Cassandra Ling, Executive Director

## 2022 Board of Directors

Abisoye Ajayi, Dana Bullister, Isioma Chukwu, Tyra Edwards-Krause, Renee Gaudette, Heidi Harris, Tonia Hicks, Elizabeth Johnson, Natalie MacLean Leino, Cassandra Ling, Martha Mason, Johanna Pittman, Carmyn Polk, Caro Ruiz, Pamela Salas, Michele Scott, Theodora Skeadas, Naomie Stephens, Hallie Tosher, Ayesha Wilson, Tiffany Wong, Leaha Wynn, Marina Zhavoronkova

## 2022 Staff & Interns

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## 2022 Members

(excluding those listed above)

Regina Caines, Ann Walsh, Nandhini Sriram



# On a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all.

As a YWCA USA member association, we accomplish this work through direct-service programming and community-based advocacy work. YWCA Cambridge provides single room occupancy housing for 103 self-identified women in our Tanner Residence; a safe haven for 10 homeless families at Renae's Place, our Family Shelter; two youth programs on a mission to cultivate self-love, self-expression, and leadership skills for middle and high school Cambridge youth; and a Korean marital arts program, Soo Bahk Doo.

## Through our core programming areas,

- Youth Programming
- Health & Wellness
- Housing & Shelter Services
- Racial & Social Justice Advocacy

YWCA Cambridge served **614** individuals in 2022.



# Housing and Shelter Services

## Tanner Residence

At Tanner Residence (Tanner), we offer 103 units of quality, safe, single room occupancy (SRO) housing for people who identify as women who have experienced trauma and need a supportive environment where they can heal and grow.

**In 2022, 168 people called Tanner home.**

**100% lived below the poverty line.**

2022 was a year for reunited and reconnecting. Tanner staff restarted support groups, coffee hours, and our Summer BBQ. Many of our programs are made possible from our community's support.



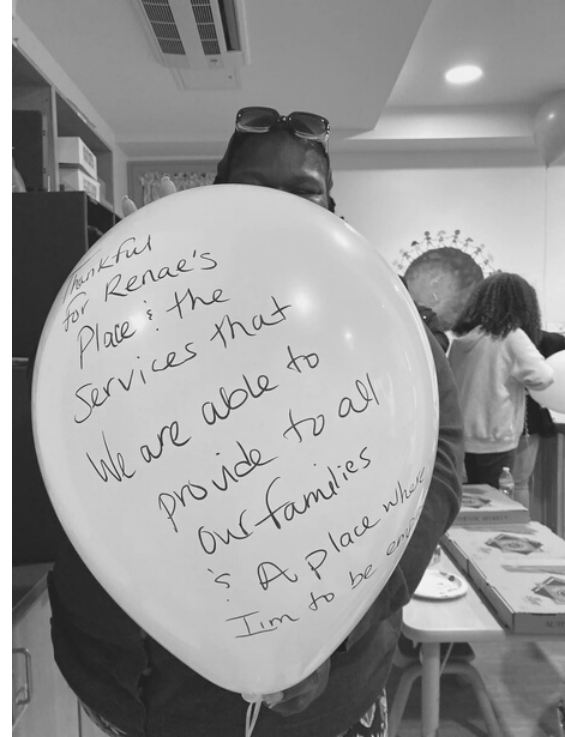
# Housing and Shelter Services

## Renae's Place for Homeless Families

Renae's Place, YWCA Cambridge's Family Shelter, provided housing for **15 families with their 19 children** in 2022.

Shelter staff are available 24/7 to support residents with individualized goals including securing safe permanent housing, developing interviewing skills, and enrolling in job training programs. For 12 months following a family's move to stable housing, our team stays connected and continues to offer stabilization assistance. We are forever grateful for their commitment to our clients.

**In 2022, 4 families moved into permanent, safe housing.**



## 2022 Success Stories



One Family Shelter client completed their Personal Care Aide training.



Four Family Shelter clients secured full-time work and five secured part-time work.



One Family Shelter client secured TPS (Temporary Protective Status), which enables them to work and be eligible for Federal Housing.

# Rita's Reflections

## Current Tanner Resident

### Hi im Rita!

I am a resident at the YWCA! I love living at the Women's YWCA! I feel so safe here the YWCA is my home sweet home! Im scared to live alone in a apartment so living here at the YWCA is perfect for me. This building means so much to me because I lived here 2 other times in my life. The management is great Amelia, JeanMarie, Markus and Cassandra are the best!! They care about all of the women here and make sure we all get heard I'm so grateful for all 4 of them!!!! **The women here are strong and powerful an beautiful!! We all have are own journey in life an I'm so happy me an them can be safe living here** for as long as we need need to!!

The Security is great an make sure we are safe 24 hours!! The maintenance do such a great job to make sure everything is clean in the building an if we have a problem in the building or in our apartment rooms they fix it for us!! **Living here is such a blessing** because we are all like family and sisters!! The YWCA is a safe place, affordable, and gets a lot of women off the streets from being homeless no matter who they are!!

The service coordinator help people get apartment from here gets us clothes, help with groceries when we have no money, helps with id's, has fun groups, and celebrates our birthday!! They're great and they also gets us donations every week an those donations help me an the women here!! I know I'm cared for an that means a lot to me! On holidays we get a nice meal, parties an presents!!

My room is my safe haven. I love living here at the womens YWCA :)



# Racial & Social Justice Advocacy

YWCA Cambridge's Racial and Social Justice programming focuses on educating, facilitating, and engaging the community in action-oriented dialogue on race and social justice, as well as building a safe and open environment for community members to speak and be heard. Thank you to Cummings and Amgen Foundations for making this department possible.

**Our Advocacy programming served 344 individuals directly in 2022.**

## Events Hosted

- MLK Day: Reimagining Reparations
- Lesley February Action Hour
- Stand Against Racism 21-Day Challenge
- Stand Against Racism: Racism and Film
- Stand Against Racism: Sex Education
- Pride Month Series
- Phone banking for Fair Share Amendment
- Get Out the Vote
- Showing Up Right: DEI Volunteer Workshop

## Submitted Testimony for 9 Bills

- An Act empowering cities and towns to impose a fee on certain real estate transactions to support affordable housing
- Work and Family Mobility Act
- Jail & Prison Construction Moratorium Bill
- An Act to Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty
- An Act empowering cities and towns to impose a fee on certain real estate transactions to support affordable housing
- Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA)
- An Act to Increase Access to Disposable Menstrual Products in Prisons, Homeless Shelters and Public Schools
- An Act providing affordable and accessible high quality early education and care to promote child development and well-being and support the economy in the Commonwealth
- An Act Codifying the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program





# Youth Leadership

## Gold and Gender Expansive Youth Programs

YWCA Cambridge runs two after-school educational programs, Gold and Gender Expansive Youth, for youth ages 11 - 18.

**The Gold curriculum** centers on the lived experiences of Black, Brown, and Biracial girls.

**The GEY curriculum** centers on the lived experiences of trans and gender-diverse youth.

Both programs nurture and support participants' well-being and mental health by creating a safe, supportive, and caring environment.

**Girls of color, nonbinary youth, queer youth, and transgender youth are rarely provided safe, affirming, and supportive spaces. We provide these spaces through our Gold and GEY programs.**



# 39

youth served in  
2022!

*"There is something so beautiful in knowing you aren't alone in your experiences. Feelings of isolation are common among queer youth. Most of us don't see ourselves in our families, schools, and communities. It can seem to us as though we are irrevocably different from everyone we know. It's a lonely feeling. Through GEY, we are able to build a community of teens like us."*  
-2nd year GEY Participant

# Boston Classical Soo Bahk Do



## Health and Wellness

Boston Classical Soo Bahk Do became a YWCA Cambridge program in 2016, more than 15 years after first arriving at YWCA Cambridge's 7 Temple St location!

## In 2022, 29 individuals regularly participated in Boston Classical Soo Bahk Do.

Soo Bahk Do is a traditional Korean martial art whose historical sources date back over 2,000 years. It is both a highly effective self-defense system and a beautiful, traditional art form.

YWCA Cambridge's Boston Classical Soo Bahk Do martial arts program offers a holistic form of health and wellness, cultivating self-empowerment and mental resilience alongside physical strength. Income-based scholarships for people of all ages are offered. Through Soo Bahk Do, we bring self defense and leadership skills to the Cambridge community and beyond.

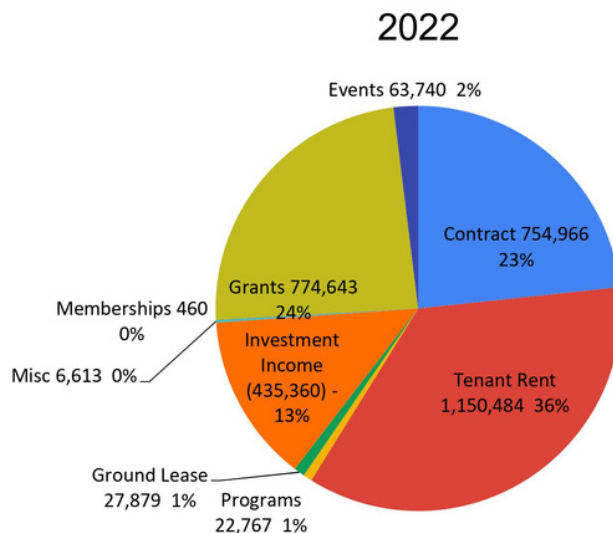
**Soo Bahk Do's guiding philosophy is  
"Neh Kang Weh Yu - Strong Inside, Gentle Outside."**



# FY 2022 Statement of Activities

## Unaudited

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
<b>Revenues &amp; Support</b>		
Contract	754,966	719,128
Tenant Rent	1,150,484	1,003,980
Programs	22,767	20,781
Ground Lease	27,879	27,879
Investment Income	(435,360)	408,539
Misc	6,613	335,862
Memberships	460	72
	1,527,809	2,516,242
<b>Grants &amp; Contributions</b>		
Grants & Contributions	774,643	711,125
Events	63,740	44,865
	838,383	755,990
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2,366,192</b>	<b>3,272,231</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Revitalization	1,207,743	1,005,472
Program	1,026,843	1,095,925
Properties	403,486	421,689
Fundraising	131,693	141,449
Mgmt & Gen	189,552	106,328
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,959,317</b>	<b>2,770,863</b>
<i>(Adjust f. Non-Cash Loss)</i>	699,082	(143,063)
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>105,957</b>	<b>358,305</b>



# 2022 Supporters

## \$5,000 or More

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Helbling Precision Engineering Inc  
Arbella Insurance Foundation  
W. Second Growth Foundation  
YWCA USA  
Cambridge Community Foundation  
Kathleen McGinn  
Google  
Cummings Foundation  
Amgen Foundation

## \$2,500-\$4,999

Eastern Bank  
Facebook Payments Inc.

## \$1,000-\$2,499

Bessemer Trust  
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Harvard University Employees Credit Union  
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West Cambridge Science Park LLC  
Cambridge Math Circle  
Central Square BID  
Fidelity Charitable  
Vincent Costello  
Lori Cowles  
Bruce Irving

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## \$500-\$999 (cont.)

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Ellen Curren  
Julie Asher  
Benevity  
Natalie Leino  
Rachael Solem  
Emmy Howe  
Facebook Payments  
Irving House at Harvard  
Isioma Chukwu

## 1-\$499

Aaron Taylor  
Abisoye Ajayi  
Abraham Chen  
Amanda Peters  
Anonymous  
Arthur Ensroth  
Ayesha Wilson  
Benjamin Phillips  
Caro Ruiz  
Carolyn Lackey  
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Catherine Walline  
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Daniel Pallin  
Daniel Steele  
David Weinstein  
Deb Nicholson  
Elaine DeRosa  
ElizabethHolland  
Elizabeth Bartle  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Ellen Curren  
Etaine Smith  
Eva Blythe  
Hallie Tosher  
Helen Gray-Bauer  
Hong Kong

# 2022 Supporters

## \$1-\$499 (cont.)

Jennie Kwo  
Jessica Brown  
Joel Bard  
Johanna Pittman  
Jonathan Bobaljik  
Kaydee Vraspier  
Kelly DiSantis  
Kerry Evans  
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Leonora Jennings  
Lorraine Thornhill  
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Sylvia Whiting

Talya Housman  
The Blackbaud Giving Fund  
Tiffany Wong  
Tufts Health Plan Foundation  
Tyrone Fells  
Vanessa Bennett  
Whitney Mooney

## In-Kind Contributions

Kingdom Empowerment Center  
Bahá'í Church of Cambridge  
Bagelsaurus  
Cambridge Police Department  
Elizabeth Straghalis  
Levering White  
MacDonald  
Women's Club of St. Mary's Church  
Zonta Club of Medford  
Michele Scott  
Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui



# Eliminating racism, Empowering women.

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