

**eliminating racism
empowering women**

ywca

metropolitan chicago

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago
1 N. LaSalle St, Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60602

T: 312-762-2743
F: 312-346-2231
www.ywcachicago.org
www.yshop.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - May 18, 2021

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago Announces CEO Transition

Dorri McWhorter is leaving YWCA Metropolitan Chicago after eight successful years to become the first woman and first African-American to lead the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

Shelley Bromberek-Lambert, YWCA's Chief Reimagination Officer, has been named Interim CEO.

McWhorter led YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's strategy to evolve from a traditional social service agency to an innovative social enterprise, positioning the organization to serve and support more individuals, families and businesses and to more effectively deliver on its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. Annual revenue grew from \$10.5 million in 2014 to an estimated \$35 million in 2021, and the number of employees from 100 to 300.

"I'm incredibly grateful to have collaborated with committed change-makers, including the YWCA staff, Board members, partners and supporters," McWhorter said. "We reimaged the possibilities for the people we serve with the goal of making Chicago an inclusive marketplace where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. I am proud of all that we accomplished together towards this goal."

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago Board President Joyce Winnecke said that top among McWhorter's accomplishments is the passionate and powerful leadership team she cultivated.

"With a seasoned senior leadership team, guided by Interim CEO Shelley Bromberek-Lambert, the organization is poised to continue the momentum," Winnecke said.

"Applying Dorri's special brand of warmth, innovative spirit and business acumen to the YMCA is only good news for Chicago. We offer Dorri our gratitude and love and we extend to the YMCA our congratulations," said Winnecke, who is leading a Transition and Search Committee that will identify a permanent CEO.



YWCA Metropolitan Chicago



ywcachicago



ywcachicago



www.yshop.org

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago's accomplishments during McWhorter's tenure include:

- Expanding the service footprint to 10 new locations
- Merging with or acquiring seven social impact organizations, including StreetWise, Voices for Illinois Children, and YWCA Lake County
- Implementation of paid family leave
- Launching of the WOMN ETF in partnership with Impact Shares, traded on the New York Stock Exchange
- Creation of the Women's Health Exchange as a resource for women's mental, physical and financial health
- Designation as an Illinois Small Business Development Center
- Expanded support for parents and families through services such as Head Start, Early Head Start and FamilyWorks
- Participation in Census 2020 outreach and engagement
- Participation in the advancement of numerous pieces of legislation that benefitted women and families
- Expanded workplace diversity, equity and inclusion services with formalization of Inclusion Chicago

YWCA Metropolitan Chicago was one of five Chicago organizations and 384 in the nation to recently receive significant no-strings-attached gifts from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott.

The YWCA leadership team credits the organization's growth and success to McWhorter's focus on a culture that values respect, empathy and belonging as highly as innovation, hard work and excellence.

McWhorter will remain at YWCA Metropolitan Chicago through June 30, the fiscal year's end, when Bromberek-Lambert becomes Interim CEO.

Bromberek-Lambert joined the team in 2015, bringing 30 years of operations and sales experience in for-profit and non-profit Early Childhood Education, Youth Development and K-12 programs. At YWCA Metropolitan Chicago, Bromberek-Lambert has led growth of services to support families including Head Start, Early Head Start and TechGYRLS. She has been key to mergers and acquisitions, including the recent merger with YWCA Lake County which led to YWCA Metropolitan Chicago expand its role as Child Care Resource and Referral administrator to both DuPage and Lake counties.

Media Contact

Molly Silverman, Chief Strategic Engagement Officer, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago
molly.silverman@ywcachicago.org
773-612-7028



YWCA Metropolitan Chicago



ywcachicago



ywcachicago



www.yshop.org

About YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

Founded in 1876, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is a social enterprise committed to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. As a leading association among a national network of more than 200 YWCAs, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago impacts tens of thousands of women and families annually through comprehensive human services provided across the region. YWCA Metropolitan Chicago is a leader in the areas of sexual violence support, early childhood and child care provider services, family support, youth STEM programming and economic empowerment. A commitment to racial justice, equity and inclusion is foundational to all YWCA programs and services. Located in the third-largest American city, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago serves as a national incubator for innovative programming, outreach and engagement strategies. YWCA Metropolitan Chicago works at both the individual and systems levels to create the truly inclusive marketplace necessary for a diverse and balanced economy. The organization is an active member of many national, state, county and city-level coalitions, advocating for policies that combat racism and positively affect women and families. Learn more at www.ywcachicago.org and follow @ywcachicago on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube.



YWCA Metropolitan Chicago



ywcachicago



ywcachicago



www.yshop.org