I have always felt honored to be a part of the YWCA. Serving as the Board’s Vice Chair has given me the opportunity to learn about our programs, build relationships with members and contribute to the strategic planning and execution of our services. As a proud Afro-Latina professional, parent and “people-lover”, I cherish my heritage and exude it most evidently in my leadership style. My family instilled in me a passion for creativity, ingenuity, innovation, compassion and family. I bring these passions to everything I do and they have served me well in my journey!

My mother, although born in Puerto Rico, never spoke Spanish and my school only taught one language and that was French. I’ve encouraged all of my children to embrace the opportunity they have to learn Spanish... and they have. Being an Afro-Latina woman is just who I am. I don’t think about it much; but when I do, it gives me joy, pride and inspiration to persist. It reminds me of how important it is to live, love, learn and lead with my whole self. All that I am, all that I have experienced and all that I appreciate and have learned from others helps me navigate each day, each endeavor and each relationship with esprit de corps.

- Juanita Rivera-Ortiz
Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

...honoring our staff members of Hispanic Heritage

Name: Fanny Villarreal  
Position: Executive Director  
Country of Origin: Peru

Name: David Pittman  
Position: Program Coordinator  
Country of Origin: Spain

Name: Katherine Guerra  
Position: Girls Inc Program Specialist  
Country of Origin: Puerto Rico

Name: Nora Putman  
Position: Director of Women's Residence Program  
Country of Origin: Honduras

Name: Ana Maria Vasquez  
Position: Life Skills Specialist  
Country of Origin: Colombia

Name: Altagracia Tenaja*  
Position: Women's Residence Maintenance Staff  
Country of Origin: Dominican Republic

Name: Liseydi Parrilla*  
Position: Receptionist  
Country of Origin: Puerto Rico

September 15 - October 15

To our staff, thank you for all that you offer to our organization!
I, Elizabeth M. Hill, have been gifted to serve, inspire, motivate and counsel others to reach their greatest potential.

My experience in my community as a former insurance professional, life/substitute teacher and Enrichment Coordinator has aided me in developing valuable expertise. I was led by Dr. Dorothy I. Height (mentor) to contact YWCA in hopes to contribute to their mission in business and educational environment. She believed in volunteerism. My years of experience in education, leadership, value of self worth, public speaking, relationship builder, tech educated, team-building and knowledge to transition in a positive work environment community. Leadership with focused purpose is key in a community that encompasses educational growth, leadership, accountability, strategic planning and building resources to reach Community goals. I ask myself daily, "Am I living my purpose?" .... Are You?

“I want to be remembered as one who tried.” – Dorothy Height

Volunteer Corner
Now featuring stories from our volunteers, interns, past program participants and staff...

Ms. Elizabeth "Connie" Hill
Volunteer: Summer 2020
Specialties: Vision board workshops, life skills building, living in your purpose

“I, Elizabeth M. Hill, have been gifted to serve, inspire, motivate and counsel others to reach their greatest potential.”

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“I want to be remembered as one who tried.” – Dorothy Height

Click here to sign-up to volunteer your time to join us on our mission!
S P I R I T  O F  A M E R I C A N  W O M E N
VIRTUAL CELEBRATION!

celebrating women and young girls
ON A MISSION
in Syracuse & Onondaga County

SAVE THE DATE

N O V E M B E R  1 7 - 1 9 ,  2 0 2 0

V I R T U A L  L I V E  E V E N T S :
Women’s Residence Celebration
Dream BuildHER Award Presentation

S P I R I T  O F  A M E R I C A N  W O M E N  G A L A
featuring Guest Speaker:
Laura Serway, Owner, Laci’s Tapas Bar
#ywcaspirit

JOIN US VIRTUALLY
THIS NOVEMBER!

TO RSVP, please call (315) 424-0040 or email our
Director of Marketing & Development,
bhoward@ywca-syracuse.org

UPCOMING EVENTS: October 2020

October 1: Join us for our 21 Day Equity Challenge to promote peace and equality. Subscribe to our mailing list to receive a promotional email with further details.

October 15: Hispanic Heritage Month ends

Celebrating Breast Cancer Awareness Month - A Collaboration with Upstate Cancer Center and our Women’s Residence Program

Nominate YWCA for CNY Readers' Choice Awards! Click here for more info.

For more information on any of the items listed above, please contact our Director of Marketing & Development, Brianna Howard, bhoward@ywca-syracuse.org or (315) 424-0040.

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