

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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YWCA Spokane, “An Evening In Tuscany” Fundraiser Doubles In Size and Receives a Fresh New Location

YWCA Spokane Hosts 10th Annual Tuscan Inspired Benefit to Support Survivors of Domestic Violence.

Spokane, WA – The YWCA Spokane’s annual event “An Evening In Tuscany”, an Italian inspired summer evening benefit, is scheduled for July 8th, 2016 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm. The fundraiser will be held at a new location this year, Barrister Winery, which allows for twice the capacity as the previous year when held at the YWCA Spokane Rooftop.

Barrister’s downtown event space and private alleyway located at 1213 W Railroad Avenue is in the heart of the Davenport Arts District and provides for an ideal Tuscan setting. “We are excited to transform Barrister’s already beautiful alleyway into an intimate Tuscan experience complete with art, wine, music, delectable desserts donated by Dayna Barton, a live and silent auction, authentic cuisine, and dancing”, expresses Dana Morris, Development Director.

Local Chef Gina Lanza, previous owner of Amore Italian Restaurant and Anaconda Grill, has donated her time, resources, and famous artichoke pesto lasagna recipe to the YWCA Spokane benefit since its inception in 2006. In 2005, Gina’s involvement with the agency started through volunteering her time in Our Sister’s Closet, the YWCA’s donation-based, free clothing boutique for women. Shortly after, Gina facilitated a cooking class to raise funds to support Our Sister’s Closet. One year later, An Evening In Tuscany was born as a viable solution to raise much needed funds for the YWCA’s domestic violence safe shelter.

“This year it is especially important to have events like this because of the recent funding struggles we’ve experience on the local and federal level to support our safe shelter and housing programs for domestic violence survivors,” expresses Melanie Wilson, YWCA Procurement Manager and Tuscany Event Coordinator for the past 10 years. “The community has been so responsive and supportive to our work. This event is always such a joy to facilitate.”

Tickets cost is \$70 per person. Pre-registration is necessary due to limited seating. Attendees will join us in a the common goal of supporting the peace, justice, freedom and dignity of the women and children served through the YWCA of Spokane’s Alternatives to Domestic Violence Program, Children’s Services, and Women’s Opportunity Center. We ask you to join us in support of our mission and help us raise funds that will benefit the 17,000 women and children we serve each year.

About YWCA of Spokane

The YWCA of Spokane is a multi-service non-profit organization whose mission is eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. For over 113 years the YWCA has been committed to empowering women in the Spokane community.

The YWCA’s three umbrella programs include the Alternatives to Domestic Violence Program, Spokane County’s only state-recognized program for domestic violence; the Women’s Opportunity Center, an established Workforce Connection Site; and Child Services which includes four sites implementing the Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program. The YWCA is also home to the uniquely collaborative Spokane Family Justice Center which includes YWCA legal advocates, and City and County law enforcement and prosecutors. These programs benefit more than 17,000 women and children annually.

The YWCA of Spokane is the go-to place in the region for services that empower women and children, support for victims of domestic violence, work readiness resources, and early childhood education. The organization is also a key partner in coalitions in the community working on issues of racial and social justice.

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