

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**7-Eleven contributes \$1 million to YWCA Oklahoma City Capital Campaign**  
*YWCA Oklahoma City is the only shelter for battered women and children in Oklahoma County*

**Capital Campaign  
Chairmen's Council:**

Tricia Everest  
Kris Frankfurt  
David Hudiburg  
Rita Moore  
Charlotte Richels  
Lela Sullivan

OKLAHOMA CITY (August 7, 2012) – 7-Eleven has made a major contribution to the YWCA Capital Campaign to build a new shelter for battered women and children, remodel the existing shelter and remodel the YWCA Oklahoma City McFarland Branch.

“Our current shelter stays full 99.9 percent of the time,” said Janet L. Peery, CEO of the YWCA Oklahoma City. “This capital campaign is critical for us to give these victims a safe haven and help them build a life free of violence.”

**Capital Campaign  
Advisory Committee:**

Ann Alspaugh  
Bill Anoatubby  
Rita Aragon  
Louise G. Bennett  
Sam Bowman  
Cliff Branan  
Zora Brown  
Bill City  
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Jeaneen & Bob Naifeh  
Beth & Paul Odom  
Cynda Ottaway  
Russell Perry  
David Prater  
Gene Rainbolt  
Bob Ross  
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Barbara and Roger Simons  
Lee Allan Smith  
Bob Spinks  
Wanda Swisher  
Becky & Barry Switzer  
Carol Troy  
Tony Tyler  
Jim Vallion  
Roy Williams

Oklahoma currently ranks 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation for women killed by men, and 1 in 4 women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime. Since 2000, there have been more than 1,000 domestic violence homicides, but 95 percent of those homicide victims never accessed services.

7-Eleven President Jim Brown explains that supporting the YWCA's capital campaign is consistent with 7-Eleven's mission to support the community that supports its stores. “7-Eleven is an integral part of the very community of women and children served by the YWCA, and it's a privilege to be part of the blessings that the YWCA provides to these folks every day”, Brown said.

In addition to the cash contribution, 7-Eleven's stores will have YWCA's Crisis Services brochures as well as a Volunteer Opportunities brochure available to its customers. 7-Eleven's interest is in helping to educate the public about the YWCA's organization, the services it provides, and the opportunities available for people who may want to share their time, talent, and treasures with the YWCA.

“Sure the YWCA needs capital to expand the shelter, and to serve more women in need,” Brown said. “But our stores have become depots for information about this shelter. People need to know who it's for and what it does. And folks with resources and big hearts need to know about the good that this organization does for women in our community. Hopefully making this information available in our stores will serve to help educate, inform, and perhaps even help to expand the base of support for the efforts of our YWCA”, Brown said.

The funds raised from the 3-year campaign will build an 85-bed shelter, nearly doubling the size of the current shelter. The 30-day emergency shelter will provide for immediate needs and life-saving shelter for women and children who have experienced violence and abuse. The existing shelter will be transformed into a 6-month extended stay shelter with innovative programs to create longer-term safety and self sufficiency.

For more information or to donate to the capital campaign, visit [www.ywcaokc.org](http://www.ywcaokc.org) or contact the YWCA at 405-948-1770.

**About the YWCA Oklahoma City**

The YWCA Oklahoma City is dedicated to breaking the cycle and empowering new beginnings. The YWCA Oklahoma City is best known as the only certified shelter for battered women and children in Oklahoma County. More than 15,000 women, children and men receive help through YWCA programs, including emergency shelter for battered women and children, counseling, support groups, child care, transitional housing, financial literacy, and other services. Ongoing community outreach efforts of the YWCA provide education on the issues of domestic and family violence and the empowerment of women. For more information on the YWCA Oklahoma City, visit [www.ywcaokc.org](http://www.ywcaokc.org).

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