



MEDIA RELEASE
12.01AM 20 FEBRUARY

CALLING CANBERRA WOMEN WITH INNOVATIVE IDEAS

20 February 2015: YWCA Canberra is inviting Canberra women and girls to follow their dreams and aspirations, and apply for a Great Ydeas grant.

YWCA Canberra's Great Ydeas small grants program provides grants of up to \$2000 to local women and girls, so that they can pursue a professional development opportunity, pilot a project or business idea, or address a need in the community.

The program was launched by YWCA Canberra in 2010 in celebration of the organisation's 80th anniversary. Since then, more than 25 women have received grants, including:

- Country to Canberra, a program that brings rural girls to Canberra to meet women political leaders
- Martial Women, a martial arts program for women and girls
- participation in the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- For Purpose, a program supporting professional development for people working in the not-for-profit sector.

YWCA Canberra's Executive Director Frances Crimmins said the grants offer a wonderful opportunity for Canberra women and girls to demonstrate their leadership and innovation.

"The ambition, innovation, and courage shown in many of the projects we have funded is a sign of the outstanding qualities already well-developed in young women across our community," Ms Crimmins said.

"We look forward to supporting more girls and women to achieve their aspirations in this year's funding round."

The program is open to YWCA Canberra members, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and young women under 30 are particularly encouraged to apply.

Women who are interested but not yet a YWCA Canberra member can join online at www.ywca-canberra.org.au/get-involved/become-a-member.

- ENDS -

Frances Crimmins is available for interview.

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About YWCA Canberra: YWCA Canberra is a feminist, not-for-profit community organisation that has been providing community services and representing women's issues in the Canberra community since its establishment in 1929. YWCA Canberra employs more than 300 staff across the ACT, and delivers 30 quality programs in children's services, community development, housing, youth services, women's leadership, advocacy, and training. Represented in 122 countries, the YWCA has a global reach of 25 million women and girls. As part of this international movement, YWCA Canberra works for a world where reconciliation, justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women's leadership. For more information visit: www.ywca-canberra.org.au

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