



YWCA
CANBERRA

GIFTS IN WILLS

**Your gift.
Your values.
Your lasting impact.**



Acknowledgement of Country

YWCA Canberra proudly recognises the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to own and control their cultures and pays our respects to these rights. YWCA Canberra acknowledges the need to respect and encourage the diversity of Indigenous cultures and to respect Indigenous worldviews, lifestyles and customary laws. We extend our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who for thousands of years have preserved their culture and practices of their communities on Country. This land was never surrendered, and we acknowledge that it always was and will continue to always be Aboriginal Land.



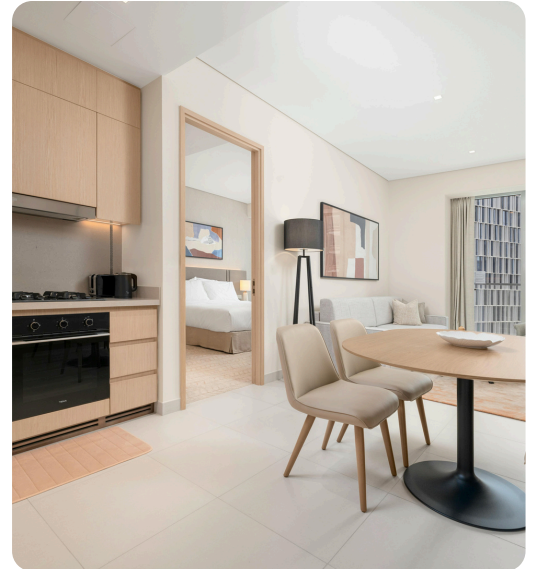
For nearly 100 years, YWCA Canberra has been a place where girls and women have found support, safety and community. A gift in your Will is one of the most powerful ways to ensure that our work continues for generations to come.



About YHomes

YHomes is YWCA Canberra's housing initiative, providing safe, affordable and supportive accommodation for women including those escaping domestic violence and women over 55 facing housing insecurity or homelessness.

**Every home we provide is more than just four walls.
It's stability and dignity.**



A place to call her own

Margaret spent her working life caring for others – her children, her in-laws, her community. She never imagined that at 67, she would have nowhere to live.

When her marriage ended, the private rental market was simply out of reach. Her pension didn't stretch to Canberra rents. She couch-surfed at her daughter's place for months, not wanting to be a burden, not knowing where else to turn.

Then she found YHomes.

A two-bedroom apartment in Canberra's inner north. Rent capped at 30% of her income – not the market rate. A dedicated tenancy worker who treated her with dignity and connected her to YWCA Canberra's wraparound support services. For the first time in years, Margaret had somewhere that was hers.



I just wanted somewhere quiet,
somewhere I could close the door
and breathe.

Older women are one of the fastest-growing groups experiencing homelessness in Australia and one of the least visible.

Many have spent decades giving to everyone around them.

A gift in your Will to YWCA Canberra helps ensure that when they need somewhere safe to land, it exists.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a bequest?

A bequest is a gift left to an organisation in your Will. It can be a specific sum of money, a percentage of your estate, or the residual after other gifts have been made.

Why leave a gift to YWCA Canberra?

Your gift helps sustain and grow programs like YHomes, ensuring that women facing homelessness, domestic violence or housing insecurity always have somewhere safe to turn. Since 2023, YHomes has provided thousands of nights of housing to women and children across Canberra and demand continues to outpace supply. Every home we add is filled. Every gift matters.

Do I need to tell you about my gift?

You don't have to, but we'd be honoured to know. Hearing from you means we can thank you personally, understand your wishes, and plan for the future with confidence.

Can I specify how my gift is used?

Because our programs evolve to meet our community's needs, we're unable to tie gifts to specific programs. Every gift is directed to where it will make the greatest difference at the time it is received.

Will my gift be acknowledged publicly?

Only ever with your permission. Your privacy is important to us.

Can I change my mind?

Absolutely. A gift in your Will is not binding until the time of your passing. We encourage you to speak with your solicitor if your circumstances or wishes change.

Does it cost anything to update my Will?

That depends on your solicitor. We recommend speaking with a legal professional to ensure your Will reflects your current wishes.

Who do I contact at YWCA Canberra?

We'd love to have a conversation. Please reach out to Eleanor Sander O'Hearn at

eleanor.sanderohearn@ywca-canberra.org.au

Quick Information for Solicitors

Organisation Name	YWCA Canberra
ABN	48 008 389 151

Suggested wording

I give and bequeath free of all duties and taxes,

- *The residue of my estate, or*
- *XX% of my whole estate, or*
- *XX% of the residue, or*
- *The specific sum of \$XX*

to YWCA Canberra to be used for the general purposes of its work. The receipt of the treasurer, secretary, or public officer of YWCA Canberra is an absolute discharge to my executor.

About YHomes: Common Questions

Who does YHomes support?

YHomes supports women who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness – including older women over 50, women escaping domestic or family violence, and women facing housing insecurity due to economic hardship or systemic disadvantage. Women with children are also supported, and where possible, housed in family-sized properties.

Where are YHomes properties located?

YHomes properties are located across the ACT, in areas with good access to services, transport and community.

How are residents supported?

Residents receive not just housing, but wraparound support including tenancy management, connection to services, and pathways to longer-term housing stability.

How does a bequest support YHomes?

Gifts in Wills help us maintain and grow our housing stock, respond to emerging needs, and ensure no woman ever has to choose between her safety and a roof over her head. With continued support, we can expand further because every home we add is filled, and hundreds of women across Canberra are still waiting.

We are a registered Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR). Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



Become a Member of YWCA Canberra

As a YWCA Canberra member you'll be part of a movement that has championed gender equality for over a century. Your membership helps strengthen our voice and our community.

Member benefits

- Voting rights at our Annual General Meeting
- Access to member-only events and updates
- Discounts on selected YWCA Canberra programs and services
- The knowledge that you're part of something bigger

Join us for just \$35 a year. →



YWCA
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