Empowering young women and girls is our way to change the world. One girl at a time.
WHO WE ARE

The World Young Women’s Christian Association (World YWCA) is a global movement working for women’s empowerment, leadership and rights in more than 120 countries and 20,000 local communities.

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Founded in 1855, the YWCA movement works to empower young women and girls to become leaders and decision-makers in their communities and households.

We empower

YWCA’s training programmes are initiated, driven and facilitated by women and young women. We use a feminist approach, which is inclusive and intergenerational. We also use a human rights-based approach to empower young women and women to become leaders and decision-makers in their communities. We develop skill-based and thematic trainings to respond to the needs of the communities. We believe that training one girl or woman means opening the door to an entire community.

We advocate

The World YWCA actively works to influence policies, regulations and norms which obstruct the rights and leadership potential of women, young women and girls. We bring the voices of young women and girls to the decision-making table. We create opportunities for them to advocate for their rights at global and regional policy-setting platforms such as the African Union, the Commission on the Status of Women and the Human Rights Council.

We create safe spaces

For the past 160 years, the YWCA has provided Safe Spaces to women and girls in the heart of local communities. Through YWCAs in more than 70 countries, the World YWCA is striving to provide safe, inclusive, non-judgmental and confidential spaces for women and girls to discuss issues such as Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), HIV, and cases of violence.

WE are the YWCA