

YWCA of Winston-Salem Announces CEO Retirement and Names Long-Time Leader as Successor

September 25, 2026

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — The YWCA of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County announced today the retirement of President and CEO Christy Respass and the appointment of Nancy Majcher as the organization's next president and CEO, effective Oct. 1, 2026.

Majcher has served as the YWCA's vice president of finance and administration for the past 18 years and has been with the organization for more than two decades.

"Nancy's leadership skills, strategic thinking and strong financial acumen, combined with her passion for the YWCA's mission and vision, made her the ideal choice," said Kasey Hayes, chair of the YWCA Board of Directors. "We are so thankful to Christy for her dedication to the YWCA and our community, and we look forward to working with Nancy to ensure a smooth transition."

One of Majcher's immediate priorities will be the opening of the YWCA's new fitness center location, expected in November. The new location follows extensive research and input from local communities and YWCA members.

In late August, the YWCA announced that its lease at the West Salem location, where the organization had operated since 2007 and previously owned the property, was ending. The YWCA has been using interim locations while preparing for its new permanent home.

"I'm energized by the YWCA's exciting chapter ahead as we prepare to announce our new home, which will provide a wonderful location for our fitness facilities and expand our capacity to serve the health and wellness needs of our community," Majcher said.

Respass has led the YWCA as president and CEO for 14 years. She plans to retire to focus on her family and church. She will remain with the YWCA in an advisory capacity for an interim period to support the leadership transition.

"When I joined the YWCA in 2012 as CEO, I agreed to a two-year commitment. However, serving in this role has been an incredible experience working with the talented program leaders of the YWCA and serving so many people in our community," Respass said. "I'm proud of what the leadership team has accomplished, and I'm excited to see what's next for the YWCA."

During her tenure, Respass, a former Hanesbrands vice president and general manager, helped launch Gateway to Success in partnership with Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist

and Novant Health. The program provides integrated diabetes prevention and management services for underserved adults.

Respass also helped expand nutrition services across YWCA programs through support from the Herbalife Family Foundation, strengthened academic outcomes for children served by the organization, and opened a second Hawley House residential substance use treatment home for women.

About the YWCA of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County

Founded in 1908, the YWCA of Winston-Salem & Forsyth County is committed to its mission of eliminating racism and empowering women while promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.

The organization's programs include **Hawley House**, a state-licensed residential recovery program serving women with substance use and opioid use disorders; **Best Choice Learning Center**, which provides year-round K-8 academic enrichment and needs-based scholarships; and **Gateway to Success**, an integrated health and wellness program focused on diabetes prevention and management for underserved adults.

For more information, visit [**ywcaws.org**](http://ywcaws.org).