

## **YWCA Announces Protégés for the Women's Leadership Program**

Sioux Falls, SD (December 16, 2011) - The YWCA Sioux Falls has accepted 24 women as participants (protégés) in the first Women's Leadership Program to begin January 13, 2012.

Erin Bosch, Director of Women's Leadership said, *"Today, we are pleased to announce the selection of the protégés for the YWCA Women's Leadership Program. In our first year, 50 outstanding women applied to participate in the program. We are overwhelmed with the diversity and wide range of skills that these women bring to the program. This program is an opportunity for personal, professional and community development and will result in a balanced, healthier Sioux Falls community."*



### ***The first class of protégés for the Women's Leadership Program are:***

Kekela Aspelund, Claims Supervisor - RAS  
Tracy Bieber, Registered Nurse Special Procedures - Sanford Children's Residency Clinic  
Kerri DeGraff, Community Impact Director - United Way  
Jessica DeNeui, Banquet and Catering Director - Westward Ho Country Club  
Jennifer Dykstra, Home Mortgage Consultant - Wells Fargo  
Amanda Feldkamp, Golf Course Manager - Bakker Crossing  
Jennifer Ferris, Attorney - Lynn Jackson Shultz and LeBrun  
Sara Henderson, Director of Finance Patient Care and Clinical Services - Avera  
Catrina Hieb, Credit Counseling Manager - Lutheran Social Services/Consumer Credit Counseling Services  
Caitlin Hurley, HR & Marketing - Prairie Rehabilitation  
Laura Jacobs, Program Manager - Children's Care Hospital and School  
Amanda Masterson, Branch Manager - MetaBank  
Shelly Munson, Associate Attorney - Woods Fuller  
Miranda Ochocki, Director of Development and Marketing - South Dakota Hall of Fame  
Ivy Oland, Owner - Oland Arts Consulting  
Gloria Peterson, Owner - Vanessen's Hair Design  
Allison Sanderson, Director of Childcare YWCA South  
Margaret Sampson, Development Associate YMCA  
Alisha Sedor, Executive Director - NARAL Pro Choice South Dakota  
Amy Smolik, Marketing and Communications Manager - Sioux Falls Area Chamber of Commerce  
Stefanie Strom, Retail/Direct Banking - First Bank and Trust  
Jo Theodosopoulos, Development Associate – Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation  
Ashley Thompson, Senior Analyst & Community Development - Citi  
Abby Vostad, Executive Assistant to CEO - SDN Communications

The focus of the Women's Leadership Program is to use the personal experiences and skills of volunteer mentors to educate and inspire the protégés. During a two day retreat and five training sessions, the participants (protégés) will develop an individual success plan that includes personal and professional goals and ways to achieve them. In February a mentor will be matched with the participant (protégé) to support and guide her through the implementation of her plan during the next year.

For more information on the program go to [www.ywca-sf.org/leadership](http://www.ywca-sf.org/leadership) or contact Erin Bosch, Director of Women's Leadership, at YWCA (605) 336-3660.

(A brochure is available online [www.ywca-sf.org/leadership](http://www.ywca-sf.org/leadership) outlining information on the January retreat and six sessions.)

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### **About Junior League of Sioux Falls**

The Women's Leadership Program is a service project of Junior League of Sioux Falls. The collaboration furthers the mission of both YWCA Sioux Falls and Junior League of Sioux Falls to enrich the lives of women and empower them to make themselves and Sioux Falls a stronger community.

The Junior League of Sioux Falls, Inc. (JLSF) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Celebrating its 33rd year in 2011, JLSF's purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. JLSF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and member of the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. More information can be found at [www.JLSiouxFalls.org](http://www.JLSiouxFalls.org) or by calling (605)336-9469.

### **About YWCA Sioux Falls**

For 90 years, the YWCA Sioux Falls has been an active community partner offering quality and affordable programs, services and opportunities meeting the needs of women and their families. Through a variety of programs we have a positive impact on our community: Aquatics & Water Safety, Health and Fitness, Licensed Childcare, Before & After School Care, KinderCollege – elite preschool, Women's Leadership Program, Youth Recreation, and Girls on the Run/Girls on Track. YWCA Sioux Falls is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. For more information call (605) 336-3660 or go to [www.ywca-sf.org](http://www.ywca-sf.org).

