



BHC-MSS 0172

Guide to the Records of Women's Auxiliary and the Mother's Club of the YMCA
of Greater Bridgeport

By Meg Rinn

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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Women's Auxiliary of the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport, Mother's Club of the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport

Title: Records of Women's Auxiliary and the Mother's Club of the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport

Dates: 1915-1971

Quantity: 2 manuscript boxes, 1 scrapbook; 1 linear foot

Abstract: The Young Men Christian's Association of Bridgeport was founded in 1884 to provide support for men in the city of Bridgeport. In order to support the YMCA's mission, the Women's Auxiliary was founded in 1887. The Mother's Club did the same, although it was founded later in 1936. Their assistance, detailed in this collection, helps document the needs of the YMCA and the population it served from 1915 to 1971, with a particular focus on the Great Depression.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

The Young Men's Christian Association, otherwise known as the YMCA or now simply the Y, has been a part of Bridgeport since 1884. It was initially intended for men only, with the sister organization the YWCA providing support for women. During its history, the organization in Bridgeport has undergone a number of name changes, including the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport and the Central Connecticut Coast YMCA.

Support organizations sprang up around it in order to allow the YMCA to continue to provide services. The Women's Auxiliary group was founded in 1887 made of charitable minded women who helped ensure funds and awareness for the Y. The Mother's Club began in 1936 and represented the mothers of children who were enrolled in Y programing.

Due to their similar natures and goals, the two groups merged in 1958, retaining the name of the Women's Auxiliary.

Scope and Content note:

The collection primarily contains minutes, providing a fairly complete overview of operations with a few gaps. Of particular note are minutes from the 1930s, which help to document the actions of the YMCA and the Women's Auxiliary during the Great Depression.

Arrangement Note:

Series I contains material related to the Women's Auxiliary and features primarily minutes arranged chronologically, along with some correspondence and additional information. Series II

contains the minutes and related rosters and program information of the Mother's Club.

Series III contains material specific to the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport, with fundraising placed before pamphlets and other material. The final series, additional material, contains related material such as information related to the Connecticut Association of Women's Groups. Arranged chronologically.

Administrative information:

Provenance: Accession date unclear.

Preferred Citation:

Records of Women's Auxiliary and the Mother's Club of the YMCA of Greater Bridgeport (BHC-MSS 0172), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Corporate names

YMCA of Greater Bridgeport

YMCA of Greater Bridgeport. Mother's club

YMCA of Greater Bridgeport. Women's Auxiliary

Subject tracings

Nonprofit social services

Detailed box/folder listing

Series I, Women's Auxiliary

Box 1

1. Women's auxiliary minutes, 1915-1931
2. Women's auxiliary minutes, 1937-1955
3. Women's auxiliary minutes, 1958-1965
4. Women's auxiliary minutes, executive board, 1061-1965
5. History and annual reports, 1941-1964
6. Correspondence, 1958-1965
7. Rosters and programs, 1947-1965

Box 2

1. Photographs, c. 1963

Series II, Mother's club

2. Mother's club correspondence, minutes and reports, 1950-1958
3. Programs and roster, 1943-1957, undated

Series III, YMCA of Greater Bridgeport

4. Fundraising, 1927-1928
5. Fundraising, 1941-1960
6. Fundraising, 1961-1971
7. Pamphlets, 1940s-1950s
8. Pamphlets, 1940s-1950s

Series IV, Additional material

9. YMCA of Stratford, undated
10. Testimonial dinner, 1933

11. Connecticut Association of Women's Groups, 1955-1964

12. YMCA Women's Council of North Eastern Area, minutes and reports, 1957-1963

Box 3, Mother's Club minutes, 1950-1955