

For Immediate Release

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YWCA Central Alabama Provides Free Prom Dresses to Girls in Need

Birmingham, AL, March 5, 2019 – YWCA Central Alabama will provide Birmingham area girls in need with free prom dresses through its annual Prom Palooza event. This initiative will take place on Saturday, March 16, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the YWCA, 309 23rd Street North, Birmingham, AL 35203.

In addition, the YWCA is hosting *Fashion With Compassion*, a fashion show previewing the YWCA's prom dresses modeled by girls from area high schools. The show will be held Thursday, March 14 at 6 p.m. at the YWCA and tickets are \$20.

Girls receiving the dresses have been referred by their high school guidance counselors, and they will be able to select the gown of their choice from a variety of sizes and colors. Accessories such as jewelry and shoes will also be available.

The YWCA has operated My Sister's Closet, which provides free clothing to clients and a high quality, low-cost shopping option for the community, in downtown Birmingham for years. When the staff realized that the high cost of prom dresses made it impossible for some girls to attend, the idea for Prom Palooza was born. Last year, more than 150 girls in St. Clair and Jefferson County received free gowns.

YWCA Central Alabama is a United Way organization dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The YWCA provides child development programs for children of homeless and working poor families; safe, affordable housing; a broad array of domestic violence services; and social justice programs. For more information, please visit www.ywcabham.org, www.facebook.com/YWCACentralAlabama and www.youtube.com/ywcentralal or follow @YWCentralAL on Twitter.

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