

Charisse Mitchell, CEO

YWCA West Central Michigan



Charisse currently serves as the CEO of the YWCA West Central Michigan whose mission is to eliminate racism, empower women and girls, and provide peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The YWCA provides comprehensive domestic violence and sexual assault services to child and adult survivors as well as prevention programming in West Michigan. Before coming to the YWCA, Charisse served for 9 years as Executive Director for the Center for Women in Transition which serves victims of domestic and sexual violence in Ottawa and Allegan counties. Before returning home to Michigan, Charisse spent more than a decade working in Washington D.C. helping to build capacity and improve the systemic infrastructure needed by agencies which serve children and families. During her years with The Center for Excellence in

Municipal Management, Charisse coordinated the development of leadership and management curricula for D.C.'s government managers and public school principals. While at the American Public Human Services Association – a bipartisan, nonprofit membership organization of human service agencies –she helped with the organization's restructuring; led the development of new projects; directed all aspects of the Association's administrative services and oversaw the finance and fund development strategies.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Public Administration degrees from The George Washington University. Charisse, her husband, Cory, and their son, Julian, live in Kentwood.