

## **Yadira Ruiz**

YWCA McLean County  
Director of Stepping Stones

Yadira has worked with the YWCA McLean County's sexual assault support services program, Stepping Stones since she started as a volunteer in November 2002. She designed and implemented Stepping Stones violence prevention programs for Junior and Senior High Schools in McLean County for four years before she was appointed Director in April 2007.

As Director, she maintains the program's daily operations, writes grants and works towards community-wide engagement in the needs of sexual assault survivors and violence prevention efforts. She trains, supports and supervises Stepping Stones staff and volunteers. Yadira serves on the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault's Contracts Review Committee; is a mentor through IWU's GUIDE program and is a non-faculty advisor to ISU's student group, FLAME. She received her Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree from The Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington and completed a leadership program through UNC Chapel Hill Prevent Institute.