



Dear Valued Y Members and Families,

As we confront this confusing and unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, I just wanted to share with you how our YMCA sincerely cares about the welfare of you and your family, and how we are doing our best to support you in the means we currently have available. We are working as hard as possible to help lessen the burden that you, your loved ones and our communities are facing during this trying time.

Through New Jersey Executive Order No. 107, Governor Murphy has directed all residents of the state to stay home until further notice. This has created a need for our Y to cease operations and close all facilities and child care centers in the hope of minimizing the growth and spread of the COVID-19 virus. This also helps to aid Y members, staff and neighboring communities in keeping as safe as possible. Our Y continues to work closely with state and local authorities in monitoring health improvements being made via the actions of the executive order, and we will move as soon as possible to re-open our facilities once the state deems it appropriate to lift the restriction. Prior to reopening, we will be performing a deep-cleaning and disinfecting of all of Y facilities. As has been testament during the over 99 years our YMCA has served this community, we will always be a leader in responding to the challenges we face, and will stand ready to respond appropriately when called to task for action, just as we are doing today.

As there is uncertainty at this time as to when NJ Executive Order No. 107 will be lifted and when our Y will be able to be reopened, we have made the decision to freeze all YMCA of MEWSA memberships, pausing all billing for the month of April. We will resume billing once we can restore our operations with membership, programming and building usage. This decision was made with the safety of you, our members, as our top priority and concern. We will continue to have essential staff on hand at our Executive Office to help support our community, as well as help prepare for the upcoming summer months to ensure our camps and outdoor programming offerings make for the best summer ever!

Please recognize that the Y of MEWSA will still have operational and building expenses to meet over the period of the next month, and possibly beyond. As a not-for-profit organization, this is sure to bring some financial challenges to our organization. As such, I will be reaching out to each of you in the upcoming weeks to seek your support in helping us to sustain our operations. I kindly request that you thoughtfully consider making a donation to our Y to ensure we are here when our community needs us. Your generosity and consideration are greatly appreciated.

In facing the challenges of COVID-19, we encourage you to stay strong, optimistic, and supporting of those around you with love and care. While our facilities are temporarily not available, we ask that you continue to exercise and employ healthy living habits for strong spirit, mind and body. Please check our website for new programming and opportunities available on line to our members.

We are hopeful that you are, and remain, safe and well, and that all our collective efforts will help limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus so that we can return to our normal operations as soon as possible. As always, we thank you for your ongoing support and for being a vital part of our Y family.

Be well and best regards,

Rose Cushing

President & CEO

Association Office

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