March 27, 2020

Dear YMCA Members,

It has been a challenging time since the Governor’s announcement on March 16, requiring us to contribute to keeping people safe by closing our doors to our members, neighbors and friends. We have greatly missed seeing you and hope you are well and safe. Thank you to those of you who have stayed in touch through calls, emails and Facebook. We will continue to post information on the YMCA website, Facebook and Twitter to keep you informed about what is happening at the Y and in the community. We have posted links for at-home workouts, fitness challenges from Y staff, ways to stay healthy with kids at home and fun recipes for parents and kids to make together. The Y will continue to post more each day. Next week, look for fun preschool and grade school activity challenges from Nicholas.

Over the course of this week, your YMCA dove deeply into delivering meals to kids in the Willmar and New London Spicer School Districts. Every year, spring break comes without food service, but this year is different. With an uncertain future right now, it is important families have the support they need, including meals for kids. As of Thursday, March 26, over 11,293 meals have been served with an anticipate addition of 3,200 more on Friday. All this because your YMCA pivoted resources in staffing and food program experience and came along side over 200 volunteers and 20 organizations and churches to make it happen.

We continue to provide school age childcare and early learning center care to essential level one and level two workers. While Kandiyohi County has not yet ramped up to meet a critical capacity, the YMCA is ready when more people in these categories will need care so that they may take care of others in need in our community.

We also continue to call our Senior members and do well-being checks. Whether is it someone in need of a staple or someone who just needs to hear somebody’s voice, we are here. Staff and volunteers are calling and will continue to call as long as needed. If you would like to volunteer to be part of this project, please let us know.

**We are sure that you are wondering about your YMCA membership.** By being a member of a cause-driven organization, you are doing good in your community. We know you understand the importance of relationships and the critical role you play as a Y member in strengthening the foundation of our community. We hope that you will keep investing in the community through your YMCA membership. If this is your intention, you don’t need to do anything. Your membership will draft on April 5, just like it always has.

If you are unable to afford you membership, we understand. We hope you will consider putting a hold on your membership so that when the YMCA is able to resume full services you will be positioned to start immediately. Your draft will resume on the 5th of the month following the reopening of the YMCA. Still, if you must cancel your membership, we understand that too. To put your membership on hold or cancel, please call the YMCA at 320-222-9622 and we will help you get that done.

Thank you for staying with your YMCA. With clean hands and open hearts,

Lynn Travaglio
Board of Director Chair

Jenny Holweger
CEO

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