



March 17, 2020

Dear Valued Stevens Point YMCA Members and Staff,

In a rapidly changing environment with government announcements of closures of schools, businesses, and an increased need to protect our community, the Stevens Point Area YMCA has been striving to continue to do what we have done for over 50 years, to be there for people. We have been there in times of crisis before and we will continue to do so moving forward.

The health and well-being of our members, staff, guests, and participants is our highest priority. Our Management Team has met numerous times since last week and participated in statewide conference calls regarding the COVID-19 virus. We have listened to the advice of health officials and state and local governments. As you know, this advice has changed rapidly. We did our best to remain open to serve our members for as long as possible during this difficult time but have decided to **CLOSE THE STEVENS POINT YMCA FACILITY** effective at 9:30 PM, Tuesday, March 17 until further notice.

At this time, while all our classes and programs are canceled, the Department of Health and Human Services has given us direction and assistance with **KEEPING OUR LICENSED CHILD CARE PROGRAMS OPEN**. Our Great Escape No School Days program will continue to operate this week as scheduled and our Early Education Center will re-open on Monday, March 23 as planned following our Spring Break. We are also working on a plan to offer additional childcare to First Responders and Healthcare Workers who may need it to continue working. We are communicating with our local hospitals to spread the word and get a count on who we can assist.

We are evaluating the options for class and program credits or refunds

so we ask for your patience as we work through those details.


Please know that none of these decisions were taken lightly and as a public health organization serving the most vulnerable of our citizens, we felt it our duty to protect them.

As you can see through our various programs and services, our Y is committed to be there for those who need us most. In this time of need, we ask that you **join us in the effort and continue your membership**. Now, more than ever, **we need your support**. Your membership matters and will allow us to continue to meet our mission and serve the community in the future. We understand there will be some interruption in access to your membership; however, your continued support is appreciated.

We are closely working with community leaders and will continue to communicate with you on when we will reopen. Thank you for your support as we work diligently to ensure the health and safety of our community. Please continue to follow our website at www.spymca.org for the latest information.

This is a time of great opportunity to come together as a community, support one another, and truly show the magnitude of generosity and kindness that this community is known for. If you or someone you know needs support, please reach out to the YMCA and we will do our best to help and connect people to the services they need.

Sincerely,



Sharon Johnson
CEO
Stevens Point Area YMCA

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