

## Important Update: COVID-19 and Your Y

YMCA Community,

These are uncertain times. It's hard to imagine more difficult circumstances for operating our YMCA. We are a community organization. We bring people together – from all backgrounds and circumstances – and create personal connections that change lives through membership and programs. Our proximity to people and communities has shaped our YMCA and the impact we make for nearly 150 years.

Following updated recommendations from the CDC, Governor Cooper, public school systems and our state and local health departments, we are temporarily suspending all YMCA member access, activities and programs from our branches and camps. This includes facility access, group fitness classes and wellness programs/activities in all YMCA branches. This is effective at close of business for each facility on Tuesday, March 17, and will last at least through April 1. This is in addition to previous program changes that are listed <u>on our website</u>, which is where we will continue to post all updates. Please note, there will be no group exercise classes on Tuesday, March 17.

Throughout the Y's history, we have been called upon to provide critical services during uncertain times. We are navigating the COVID-19 (coronavirus) global pandemic with care, sensitivity and a deep understanding of the role we play as a vital community resource, a critical civic partner, and a safe and vibrant wellness destination. During this time, we will actively work to keep our facilities available to allow us to work closely with local officials, assist our school systems with critical childcare needs and coordinate with health care organizations. We are in conversations with local officials and are assessing our ability to serve in this way. It is our strong intention to resume all normal YMCA of Greater Charlotte operations as soon as possible.

While you may not be able to access traditional Y programs and services for the next few weeks, your Y commits to play a pivotal role in our community. I urge you not to cancel your membership at this time. The significant impact we have on individuals, children, families and those who need us most depends on you. On behalf of everyone at the YMCA of Greater Charlotte, I ask that you remain a part of our Y and continue to support the critical work we do. Your membership and program fees enable our Y to help the community, support our employees and remain strong through these extraordinary circumstances.

During this time, we want to help you prioritize your health and wellness. Regular exercise is one component of a healthy lifestyle that can help reduce stress and prevent illness. To help you stay active, the Y has launched online classes via <u>Y360</u>. As a Y member, you're also able to <u>stream</u>



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<u>MOSSA classes</u> for free over the next 60 days. These virtual classes have been made available to you at no cost during this crisis so you can stay healthy and active at home.

As we trust God during this challenging time, we pray for the health and safety of all. I invite you to join me in that prayer. It's a privilege to serve you and this community.

In health,

**Todd Tibbits** President & CEO YMCA of Greater Charlotte

*"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."* Joshua 1:9