



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

June 12, 2020

Dear California community members:

As YMCAs begin reopening wellness facilities across California, we'd like to reflect a bit on the past few months and shine some light on the path ahead of us. This has been an intense period, and even for an organization as longstanding as the Y there has been no shortage of learning, adapting and facing many unknowns.

Amidst California's COVID-19 stay-at-home order, YMCAs have remained in service to our communities. We have provided emergency childcare for essential workers, distributed thousands of meals, provided virtual fitness classes and social engagements, reached out to seniors, and offered up our facilities for alternative emergency uses. We have worked in coordination with state and local officials to ensure health and safety for community members in all of our services.

As we begin reopening our wellness facilities for our community members, we continue to place community health and safety as our top priority. We have put several weeks of planning into our operating protocols, and we are going above and beyond state guidelines for fitness facilities. YMCA of the USA has partnered with Environmental Health & Engineering, Inc. to provide detailed guidance for our YMCAs on all aspects of wellness center operations, from sign-in, to group classes, free weights, machine rooms, aquatics, locker rooms, sanitation, building exits and so much more.

As community members return to seeking in-person fitness opportunities, we are committed to providing an experience that ensures confidence in the safety of the environment, along with the full experience of our state of the art wellness offerings. As always, we are here for all, to help people get and stay healthy in body, mind and spirit. We will continue to coordinate closely with state and local officials to navigate the weeks and months ahead. We remain prepared to modify our operations and close facilities if necessary.

Heading into summer, we are offering a range of youth and family activities around modified summer day and overnight camps. The availability of these programs will vary regionally, so please get in contact with your local YMCA to learn what is available. As with our facilities, we are operating with contingencies, in case we need to reduce program size or limit our offerings based on state and local orders.

We are also gearing up for fall and the upcoming school year. We will be partnering with school districts to provide the same early education and expanded learning programs we normally provide, and offering additional assistance to schools, as needed due to health and safety requirements. We're also collaborating between YMCAs statewide to provide our Youth & Government programming for teens in new and exciting ways.

We extend our thanks to all Californians for being resilient and caring through these difficult times. We also praise our state, county, and city officials and staff at all levels for keeping all of us safe in an uncertain environment. We're all in this together, and we welcome everyone to be a part of the Y, in whatever way makes sense for you.

In gratitude,

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