

Williams YMCA of Avery County 3/24/2020

Dear YMCA Family,

These last few weeks have been extraordinary as our community, state, country and world navigate the rapidly changing challenges related to COVID-19. Given all the uncertainty and the stress that come with these challenges, it has never been more critical to stay together, even as we follow the social distancing guidelines from officials to keep each other and our community healthy.

Based on continued recommendations from our Governor's latest Executive Order, the CDC, state and local health officials and area health departments, **we must extend our temporary suspension of all YMCA facility access and programs through April 26th**. Plans are to reopen Monday, April 27th.

At the Williams YMCA of Avery County, everything we do is guided by our commitment to nurture the potential of children, support your health and well-being, and provide support for our neighbors and the community. We're so much more than a gym. And here, at the Y, you're much more than just a facility member. At our YMCA, you're a part of our purpose and you're a partner in strengthening the foundations of our community. Our Y has always boldly marched toward challenges and we pivot in response to community needs. Today is no different. You can help, and we're counting on you.

Stay with Us – Your YMCA Membership Choice

As one YMCA Community, we ask that you stay with us. Your membership helps support our efforts and ensures our Y remains strong and poised to meet the critical needs in our community during this unprecedented time. In the past week, we've partnered with local organizations to distribute over 10,000lbs of food, provided free childcare for those that are in need and we've reached out to our senior community to assess and meet their needs, including providing food and medication deliveries. At this time, we want to offer you options regarding your membership:

- 1. Keep your membership active.** Keeping your membership active will help ensure we remain fully focused on our efforts to support our community and adjust quickly when called upon. If you choose to keep your membership active, please know how grateful we are for your willingness and partnership. You don't need to take any action to retain this status.
- 2. Convert your membership to a donation.** If you wish to have your membership dues converted to an ongoing, tax-deductible donation please email membership@ymcaavery.org. To make a gift to support the YMCA please click: [Donations](#). We are deeply grateful for your willingness and partnership. If you choose to convert to an ongoing donation, please email us at this address: membership@ymcaavery.org so that we may assure successful conversion and to send a confirmation.
- 3. If you wish to place your membership on hold** at no cost during our temporary suspension of services, we understand. Please email membership@ymcaavery.org and request a 2 month free Hold OR up to 1 Year Hold with a one-time fee of \$25. This request **must be made via email** so that

we have written documentation. Once we receive your email and process your request, you will receive confirmation of your membership changes.

Every cancellation and membership put on hold directly impacts our ability to support our staff team and the community. We realize you have to make the best decision for you and your family. On behalf of everyone in the community counting on our Y in the weeks ahead, thank you for your strong consideration to stay with us. Our community needs you.

There is much more work ahead for our Y. Moving forward, we'll share updates and additional resources with you as well as keep you informed on our efforts to support our community. Continue to visit ymcaavery.org or social media outlets (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) for the most up-to-date information on your YMCA.

Again, I want to **thank you** for being a part of our Y Community, for your partnership, your support and your trust. We're in this together, and together, we'll emerge stronger.

Stay well. Stay healthy.

Trey Oakley