March 27, 2020

Dear CLC YMCA Community,

First off, we hope that you are all doing well through this incredibly challenging and uncertain time. As Y staff it has been difficult, as we are all community-loving people who want to be social and helpful, but at this point our options to do so are limited. We've been candid and transparent with you all from the beginning and will continue to be, as we have now made the decision to extend the CLC YMCA closure through April 27, 2020. This decision was made in alignment with the school system, recommendations from our local health officials, and the CDC recommendations. Our reopen date will continue to remain fluid as we assess best practices through this crisis.

The great work of many of our staff has continued through the closure. Through outreach and continued Y work we are able to:

- Check in with individuals and families to assess their needs and connect them to services.
- Provide healthy meals to youth in partnership with Healthy Lincoln County on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11-12 in the CLC Y parking lot.
- Collaborate to form a community network of dedicated individuals helping to provide food and supplies to those who are rural and isolated.
- Write grants that will help us give back more to our community. Host blood drives.
- Start virtual story time with our child care families.
- Virtually lead our Thrive at the Y kids through an independent scavenger hunt.
- Provide virtual fitness classes on multiple platforms to connect, engage, and inspire our community to stay healthy which you can find here: https://www.clcymca.org/virtual-workouts
Supply you with resources through our Your Y at Home page for ideas, resources, and activities: https://www.clcymca.org/your-y-at-home

- Deep clean the entire facility and perform maintenance projects, like painting and repairs.
- Maintain the operations of the Y to manage loss and ensure financial stability through this challenging time.

Although many of us have been able to stay busy to provide essential work for the community, it is with heavy hearts, we have had to make difficult decisions. A lengthened closure means significantly reduced income and at this time it has been necessary that we furlough staff that no longer have work to perform. We are supporting them through applying for unemployment, maintaining their access to health benefits, and are holding their positions for when we reopen. As a small non-profit, we do self-fund our Unemployment which means that our Y will be paying back the state for the Unemployment balance that is paid out for our employees.

We appreciate the support we've received from our Y community, for all of our Y staff, as well as the decisions we've had to make. We humbly ask if you are able to continue your membership through this extended closure, that you do. We've provided more information on membership below so you can consider what is the best fit for you. We continue to be committed to our areas of focus: youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility, so any additional gift you are able to provide our Y during this closure would go back to support this work. For those who are continuing to work and providing essential services, we thank you for your service. For those who are at home, we encourage you to stay active, stay connected, and stay healthy.

Wishing you our best through these challenging times,

The CLC YMCA Team