



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

A Message from our CEO

March 20, 2020

Dear Member and Supporter:

A heartfelt thank you to all YMCA of Greater Boston (YGB) members who have agreed to sustain their memberships, and thereby enabling us to feed, care for and nurture the children of “essential” employees.

As a “sustaining” member, you have made a conscious choice to retain your memberships; paying the fees, even though your branches are closed for health and wellness – for that, we love you! We love you for helping us to feed and care for our most vulnerable – low income children, families and seniors. As a result of your continued support, we were able to accomplish the following in just one week:

1. Provide daily care and services for 160 children throughout our Association;
2. Feed approximately 8,500 children daily, for a total of almost 34,000 meals in 4 days, at over than 60 locations – and growing;
3. Keep facilities open, cleaned and sanitized, in service to families and children;
4. Compensate all full and part-time staff through March 28th – providing us with an opportunity to develop a staffing plan for the days and weeks to come;
5. Commit to providing health, dental and vision coverage for all employees through April 30th; and
6. Expand virtual fitness options for you and your family including:
 - *MOSSA Move* library free to YMCA members for 60 days;
 - *Life Fitness Digital Coach* for daily workouts and challenges; and
 - Our own YMCA of Greater Boston trainers and instructors leading on-demand workouts, live-streaming classes and gearing up for virtual personal training.

To access these virtual fitness opportunities, visit a new page on our website, [**ymcaboston.org/stronger-together**](http://ymcaboston.org/stronger-together). Let's stay healthy and strong together!

Please note that we are not acting alone, but in partnership the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, countless community partners, local authorities including public health officials and the MA Department of Early Education and Care, and numerous funders.

If you have not yet placed your membership on hold, we ask you to consider retaining and paying for your membership, as we to pivot to providing emergency care and services for “essential” workers. Your continued support is critical.

We are also asking individuals in our communities who are not members to become members. This can be done by calling their local neighborhood branch. The support of “new” members will assure our success as a provider of emergency care for essential workers and enable our swift return when this crisis subsides. Please share this letter with your friends and colleagues so that they can consider supporting us.

If you are a member who can no longer afford to retain your membership, we ask you to reach out to your local branch through this [link](#) and place your membership on hold. We respectfully request that you not cancel your membership, but instead place it on hold. There is no financial difference between the two options, both will defer your payments to the Y; however, placing a “hold” on your membership signals to us that you are still “with us” and that matters to us. We are working very hard to be an organization

that steps up, and we need to know we are not alone. We need to know that our members are with us. Please stay with us.

Governor Baker has required all early education and child care centers to close, and we will comply by the end of the day on Friday, 3/20. We will then pivot, as indicated above, to providing more meals for children and families and to serving as "emergency care centers" for the care of the children of essential workers, as defined by the Commonwealth. These are the men and women who will care for the ill, keep us nourished, and provide essential services.

Thanks, in advance, for your continued support, encouragement, patience and fellowship.

Your humble servant,



James O'S. Morton
President & CEO, YMCA of Greater Boston
YMCA of Greater Boston

P.S. Please watch a short video below, which demonstrates our actions this week and our ongoing commitment to the community. Your membership is meaningful!



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