

Dear valued member of the YMCA family,

Like all of you and our entire nation, we have been following the unfolding impact of the coronavirus. In response to the requests and urging of federal, state and local government leaders, we are closing our YMCA facilities after we conclude normal operations on Saturday, March 14th.

We spent a great deal of time considering what our response to this crisis should be. This is a difficult decision for us to make, because we truly feel the services we provide to our members are essential to their health and well-being. The YMCA of Greater New Orleans has a history of service to our community which began in 1852. During this temporary closure, we will continue to work with local government and health care leaders to consider how we might be able to serve our friends and neighbors in other ways. However, given the goal of our elected officials to contain the spread of the coronavirus, we feel that suspending membership and program operations is the best way for the YMCA to help our community right now.

We will suspend all membership payments immediately and continue this suspension of fees, until we are able to re-open our facilities. Once we determine we will be able to re-open, we will communicate our decision via e-mail, our website (www.ymcaneworleans.org), and YMCA branch Facebook pages.

At this point in time, we anticipate a full return to normal operations as soon as this crisis is resolved. We look forward to offering all of the important services we provide every summer, including summer camp, swim lessons, group exercise activities, and senior programming.

Thank you for being a member of our YMCA family. In our nearly 170 years of operation, our YMCA has made it through many challenging times, including wars, epidemics, and natural disasters. We have emerged from these challenges stronger as individuals and as a community. We will make it through this current crisis as well.

Sincerely,

The YMCA of Greater New Orleans Leadership Team