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MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER

YMCA OF SILICON VALLEY



Dear Valued Donor,

First and foremost, we sincerely hope this note finds you and yours safe and healthy. The shared impact that we are all experiencing as a result of the COVID-19 crisis is extraordinary and incredibly challenging. Regardless of the degree, each of us has seen our daily routine disrupted and, together we face the uncertainty of the new normal.

However, even during these challenging times there are many positive stories to inspire us. **Stories that you have helped make possible.** Today, we share our heartfelt appreciation to you for your generous support and celebrate the positive impact we have had together.

Over the past year, you've made it possible for our Y to engage in life-changing work with children, families, and individuals across Silicon Valley. From preventing summer learning loss for low-income children; to helping cancer survivors regain their strength and stamina; or from ensuring that families have positive spaces to play together; to teaching kids to be safe around water and build their swimming skills – **you have helped the Y be a**

cornerstone for your community. Click on the link below to see more about the impact you helped make happen this past year.

Our Community Impact Report

On March 17, when the “Shelter in Place” order was announced and all non-essential services were required to cease, our ten YMCA health and wellness centers and our resident camp were closed to normal operations. We also paused youth programming and after school care.

As we’ve done so many times throughout our 152 year history in Silicon Valley, the YMCA has shifted our efforts to respond to the critical needs of the communities we serve. Because our Y is embedded in so many communities throughout Silicon Valley and is recognized as one of the strongest community service organizations in the area, we were called upon to be a **partner in the response to COVID-19.**

In light of the national, state, and local guidelines for slowing the spread of the virus, we’ve redeployed several of our health and wellness facilities and school sites to be **Community Response Centers.**

Your support for the Y helped ensure this was possible. During this time of crisis, your generosity allows us to provide essential programs and services, crucial to the welfare of our communities. Our current efforts include:

Critical Care for Essential Workers’ Children – Working together with hospitals, medical providers, first responders, municipalities, and school districts, we are providing emergency care for the children of healthcare workers, first responders, and essential workers from all sectors (grocery, pharmacy, banks, etc.). Today, four sites have capacity to serve nearly **220 children daily.** These care centers are following strict guidelines in accordance with the Public Health Department.

Child Nutrition Sites – When schools closed, many children and families lost access to healthy meals. The Y quickly partnered with Child Nutrition Services, Second Harvest Food Bank, and several school districts to distribute essential food to children and families in need through “drive-up and pick-up” stations. Today, 10 sites, located at Title I schools serving low-income families, are providing more than **19,000 healthy meals every week.**

Support for Distance Learning – We are currently partnering with **47 Title I schools** to support teachers and students, the majority of whom are from

low-income families, as they continue their learning through virtual connections and one-on-one support. Additionally, **Project Cornerstone** has revised lessons and developed instructions to allow **all families to continue promoting positive character development** at home with their children, helping them better deal with the stress associated with the crisis.

Blood Donation Stations – In response to the Red Cross reaching out to the Y for support due to a **heightened demand for life-saving blood**, our Y is currently working to set-up Blood Donation Stations. The first station will open at our South Valley Family YMCA in San Jose on April 22. We anticipate that this emergency response service will soon be expanded to at least four more YMCA locations.

YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program Goes Virtual – YDPP continues to serve some of the most at risk members of our community. Our certified Lifestyle Coaches have pivoted from in-person classes to a virtual delivery model, offering online group sessions and phone consultations for participants who were enrolled in the yearlong program when the shelter-in-place orders were enacted.

Hot and Healthy Meals for Seniors – Our Y is ensuring that our most vulnerable population impacted by COVID-19, older adults, still have access to nutritious food. The Y is providing hot and healthy meals for seniors with staff teams making home-cooked meals, packaging them, and running them out to the cars of senior adults and caretakers. More than **200 meals are currently being distributed daily**.

YMCA of Silicon Valley is helping thousands of children, families, and seniors every day and it's all because of you. **Without your ongoing support, we wouldn't be able to provide these critical and essential services in response to COVID-19.**

We can't wait to reopen our doors to the full community and resume the transformative programs and services that our donors have traditionally supported. In this time of critical need we are so thankful that your support has allowed us to unite, lift-up hope, and create these inspiring stories together. We invite you to stay connected and updated by visiting www.ymcasv.org regularly.

From all of us at the Y...thank you for making more possible.



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Increase Your Contribution – Your donation might be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. Many companies have expanded their employee donation matching gift programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please use the search tool in the link below to see if your company will match your donation to the YMCA and to access the forms, guidelines, and instructions that you will need to submit a matching gift request to your employer.

See If Your Employer Matches

CARES ACT – As part of the COVID-19 response, the Federal Government has signed the CARES Act into law. We want to make sure you are aware of several provisions in this legislation.

- If you take the standard deduction on your 2020 tax return, you can claim a brand new “above-the-line” deduction of up to \$300 for cash donations you make as an individual this year to qualified charities or \$600 for married couples filing jointly.
- If you itemize on your tax return, you can deduct more of your charitable cash contributions than in a typical tax year (up to 100% of your Adjusted Gross Income).
- For corporations, the percentage limitation on the corporate income tax charitable deduction increased from 10 to 25 percent of the corporation’s taxable income for 2020.
- Always consult your tax advisor if you have questions about your eligibility for these or other tax incentives.