



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

YMCA Family,

Like our entire nation, our YMCA continues to monitor the ongoing developments associated with the community spread of COVID-19, which is prompting us to make some unprecedented decisions.

Late last week we reduced program offerings, eliminated all group activities and paid programs, but kept facilities open for individuals in an effort to continue serving your wellness needs.

**Due to the ongoing public health emergency presented by the COVID-19 virus outbreak, we will be temporarily closing all Thomasville YMCA locations effective 7 PM tomorrow (March 19).** We anticipate this closure will last at least through March 31<sup>st</sup> but will adapt our plans based on the best and latest guidance from the CDC and local public health officials.

We arrived at this difficult decision based on the latest CDC guidance and in consultation with local public health officials. As a nonprofit community service organization, the Y's top priority will always be your health and the health of our community. Our goal with this temporary closure is to do our part in trying to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community before it threatens to overwhelm our public health system.

Even individuals who experience no or mild symptoms after contracting COVID-19 can act as carriers to exponentially spread the virus throughout our community, including to the elderly and others most vulnerable to the disease. Every small step we take now to reduce spread can have a dramatic positive impact on our community's health in the days and weeks to come.

### **Digital wellness options available**

I want you to know how much we at the Y regret the inconvenience this temporary closure may cause you. Even while our doors are closed, please know the Y wants to continue to be a resource for you as you seek to maintain your health and well-being during this challenging time. Toward that end, I would encourage you to visit our website and social media channels, where you will find free wellness resources including online group fitness classes from our national [YMCA 360](#) initiative, workout routines and much more.

### **More than ever, your membership means more**

As we work to continue to serve you, I have an urgent request of you: Please stay with us during this difficult time and keep your membership active.

By continuing to pay your membership fee, you will allow us to maintain the financial resources needed to focus our time, people and energies to where our community needs it most. For example, our Y is making plans if called upon, to respond to critical child care needs for emergency responders and "essential" employees protecting our community.

### **Financial assistance available**

We know many of you may be experiencing significant hardship during this crisis. If so, I encourage you to seek the membership financial assistance available through our scholarship program. We, of course, can also place a temporary hold on your membership if there is no other option. But it is our hope and my personal request that you stick with us in service of the greater good we can do together for our community. If you have any membership questions, please contact Kaytie Long at 229-226-3446 or [klong@ymca-thomasville.org](mailto:klong@ymca-thomasville.org).

Please take care of yourself and one another. Our community is strong, and together, we will get through this.

With Gratitude,

Tom Everett  
CEO