



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## **A Message to Our Members and Program Participants**

The YMCA of the Blue Water Area is committed to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone who enters our facility, including our staff team. Out of an abundance of caution, and following recommendations provided by the St. Clair County Health Department and the State, we are encouraging social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19 by **closing the YMCA facility to the public effective Tuesday, March 17**. We will also be suspending all regular programs, events and workshops. The timeline will be defined based upon how the coronavirus pandemic continues to develop.

**The YMCA Wallbank Child Development Center is considered an essential service and will remain open.** The staff in the center will be following enhanced precautions recommended by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

We are examining options to be able to offer **virtual workout programs**. Please stay tuned as these plans are finalized over the next couple of days.

The Y will now focus its efforts on providing critical services through partnerships and collaborations with other community agencies who are engaged in crisis response. We are examining options regarding child care as well as options to use our resources to support food distribution.

For those of you who just signed up for the session that started on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will create a system credit on your account for use in a future session.

As we look ahead to April, members can put their membership "on hold" once a year for a time period of 2-6 months. On hold status requires written notice to the Y by the 25th of the month prior to when the hold takes effect and a date to reactivate the full membership. If you would like to take advantage of the hold, we ask you to call (810) 987-6400 extension 112 this week between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. You can also use this email address, [lirwin@bluewaterymca.com](mailto:lirwin@bluewaterymca.com).

Consider using your monthly bank draft as a donation to the YMCA of the Blue Water Area during our period of closure. These funds will be used to help support our community response to the COVID-19 crisis. Members who draft during closure will receive a donation receipt, since during this time you will receive no service for your monthly fee. Accounts will continue to draft unless we hear otherwise from you.

This is an uncertain and anxious time for many, especially those most vulnerable in our community. In every time of crisis, the Y has responded to the critical needs of those we serve. We will continue to do so during the coronavirus outbreak.

Denise Brooks  
President/CEO