



**Tuesday, March 17, 2020**

**Fellow YMCA community members,**

I sincerely hope this letter finds you well. This event has been consuming for us all, to say the least. After much research and consideration, the Portage YMCA will be shifting into Phase Two of our emergency preparedness plan.

As I'm sure you know, our state is beginning to take drastic measures to slow the spread of COVID-19. The Portage Y will continue to support our community by:

- Feeding kids 18 and under with grab 'n go meals. Please stay tuned to social media for details or email us at [FeedTheKids@ymcaofportage.org](mailto:FeedTheKids@ymcaofportage.org).

We will, however:

- Suspend access to everyone except our 24-hour members effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020.
  - If you choose to come into the building, we encourage you to not only continue practicing our updated hygiene recommendations, but also, please be aware of your fellow members and maintain the recommended 6-foot distance.
  - We are rotating the closing of machines in order to promote this practice and the gymnasium will not be available for open basketball. There will be a rotating schedule for each area of closure for deep cleaning.
- We will also suspend our school age childcare program due to low participation, effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

We are committed to supporting families during this time by providing as many virtual outlets as possible.

We are currently offering virtual group exercises via Facebook and an online platform. For more information, email [BMendoza@ymcaofportage.org](mailto:BMendoza@ymcaofportage.org). Our preschool students are being provided with work to do at home. For more information, please email [Cathi@ymcaofportage.org](mailto:Cathi@ymcaofportage.org). If you are involved in youth sports or aquatics, we are providing drills and activities that can be done until the session resumes. For more information, please email [BManning@ymcaofportage.org](mailto:BManning@ymcaofportage.org).

If you are experiencing a financial hardship during this event, please email us at [Shannon@ymcaofportage.org](mailto:Shannon@ymcaofportage.org). There are local resources available for now and hopefully as we navigate this process more will become available through state and federal outlets.

We are here to serve you and we truly feel that it is in everyone's best interest to encourage social distancing. I encourage you to call, email or message your neighbors, especially those who may be in the high-risk category. Thank you for your patience and support.

**Shannon Burhans, President & CEO**  
**PORTAGE TOWNSHIP YMCA**