



COVID-19 Update

A Message from Andy Hamblett, Executive Director

March 25, 2020

Dear valued BRYMCA members, families, and friends,

As you know, and in response to these very difficult times, Boothbay Region YMCA has made a decision to close its facilities to help reduce the spread of the COVID-19. We can't thank you enough for the support we've received for making this decision out of responsibility to the health of our community. At this time, due to updated recommendations and state orders we are now extending our YMCA's closure through April 8, 2020. We continue to provide limited childcare and will extend the Winter II program session to make-up any lost classes. We tentatively anticipate reopening on Thursday, April 9, pending recommendations from the CDC, state, and local town and health officials.

Although the facility has shut down our work has not. Our staff team is deep cleaning our facilities to ensure all spaces, surfaces, and equipment (small and large) are disinfected and thoroughly cleaned. We are also utilizing the closure to tackle some maintenance projects and minimize the need to close program areas in the future. Our Healthy Living staff are partnering with BRCTV to create exercise videos for members to stay active, and program staff have been sharing workouts. Our Y-Arts Director is utilizing social media to stay engaged with our Y Arts families. Our Membership team is making wellness check calls to all of our senior members. We're partnering with our local schools to distribute meals to youth throughout the week and the Y is providing meals over the weekend. We continue to meet with community leaders to support local needs that are stemming as part of this crisis and are just at the start of what we can do for each other as a community!

This is a challenging and rapidly changing situation for all of us. To make sure that we are able to pay as many staff as possible during this time, we ask that you consider continuing your membership through this extended closure. We understand that you may also be going through a personal hardship during this crisis, and if that is the case, please don't hesitate to reach out to Logahn Walker our Member Engagement Director at lwalker@brymca.org. However, if you have the means to continue your membership and support the Y, we hope that you will. Our understanding is that membership dues paid while the Y is closed can be treated as charitable donations for tax purposes.

Our community depends on the Y for a safe and enriching place for our kids and adults where healthy food is provided, wellness is supported, and social interaction allows us to thrive. It is our staff that makes this work possible. Without them, thousands of our neighbors wouldn't get the support they need. Our Y only has three sources of income: membership dues, program fees, and fundraising. As most programs are discontinued for the time-being, so is that income. The continuation of your membership or a donation will help to keep our Y supported through this closure.

Please stay safe and be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andy", with a stylized, cursive flourish extending from the end.

Andy Hamblett
Executive Director