



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Dear Y members and program participants,

Your YMCA is celebrating 163 years of service today. Happy Birthday to our Y! We would love to be celebrating with all of you instead of working through closure processes and procedures due to COVID-19. We can assure you that your YMCA has faced many challenges in 163 years and will continue to thrive despite our current healthcare crisis. While the facility is closed, the spirit of this YMCA is going strong.

We deeply appreciate your understanding and patience as we navigate the challenging circumstances related to COVID-19. We are traveling in unknown territory and are working tirelessly to keep you updated and informed about YMCA operations.

Our directing team is HERE. We are continuing to serve all of you and the community. The following information will provide an insight into our current operations.

1. Our virtual platform continues to evolve. To date we have posted 20 youth engagement videos and 27 wellness videos. We intend to update our offerings weekly, if not daily.
2. We are making calls to members, program participants, and staff to check-in.
3. We will start accepting food donations on Monday March 30, 2020 for the Northeast GA Foodbank.
 - a. Food will be accepted Monday-Thursday 9am-3pm.
 - b. Food should be delivered to the bus in the front of our building.
4. Our facility will serve as a blood drive location for the Red Cross in mid-April.
5. Summer Day Camp planning is well underway. Staff training will continue through innovative ways and camper registration will begin on Monday April 20, 2020.
6. Facility cleanliness and maintenance are a top priority for us during this time. We fully anticipate reopening in the next few weeks and will ensure that our facilities are in the best condition possible.
7. Communication with community organizations is on-going. It is difficult to lead in such uncertain times. We are all working side-by-side to address needs and try to fill any void in our community.

As mentioned in previous letters sent to our patrons, I hope that all of you are proud to support your local YMCA. Because of you, this Y can lend itself to so many people and organizations in need. Thank you for not only supporting this amazing institution, but for believing in the mission. We will continue to put Christian principles into practice through our programs and services. Now, more than ever, we are embracing the words servant leadership.

Please join us at 6pm to sing Happy Birthday to your Y. We would love to see your videos online. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing—just start singing.

We miss all of you. We are praying for all of you. And we are so excited to see you soon.

Happy 163rd Birthday Athens YMCA

M. Shae Wilson-Gregg