

#StayWithUs

April 28, 2020

Dear Y Member:

Yesterday, we at the Y were all listening to Governor DeWine, waiting to hear when we'd be allowed to reopen our fitness facilities. We understand and appreciate the pace at which our state is moving. In fact, we know that Marion may need to be more cautious and move slower than other communities. But, like you, we were disappointed that we don't have a specific time line on when we might be allowed to welcome you back in the building.

Also yesterday, our Board of Directors reviewed the staff's reopening plan. The board approved the following:

Guiding Principle: Our top priority in reopening is to do so in a way that, to the best of our ability, protects the health of our staff, our members and the community at large.

Prior to reopening, the Y must:

1. have select personal protection equipment, cleaning & disinfecting supplies on hand for 30 days;
2. have protocols in place reviewed & approved by our Y's health, safety & risk management committee;
3. have adequate staff rehired & trained on new protocols;
4. have financial projections that predict income to cover at least 50% of operational costs;

Prior to reopening, Ohio and Marion must:

1. have lifted or modified Stay at Home orders;
2. specifically listed "fitness centers" or YMCAs as allowed to reopen;
3. Marion County experienced 14 consecutive days of flat or downward trajectory of COVID19 cases in the community;
4. Marion Public Health has agreed that it's ok to reopen the Y.

The board also reviewed details of how we reopen our fitness facilities. These are still being finalized and are subject to change as we learn more each day and orders for the public & businesses are likely to change. As we move into May, we will continue to keep you informed of what your Y experience will look like when we do reopen our fitness facilities. As of today, we anticipate this won't be until late May or even into June.

One permanent policy change made by our board of directors at Monday's meeting is the age of children who may be at the Y without an adult. This change was made to better align our Y with best practices for general protection of children as well as protecting their health. Effective when we reopen, **children must be 11 years old or older to be in the building alone without a parent or other adult.** Children ages 9 & 10 must have a parent or adult in the building, but the adult doesn't have to be with the child. Children 8 & younger must be directly supervised by a parent / adult or enrolled & participating in a Y program.

When we first reopen, we anticipate that we'll be limited on the number of people in each space at any one time. Therefore, our focus at first will likely be on adult fitness, so

there may not be opportunities for Open Gym or Open Swim, but we wanted to give families a heads up about this age policy change. We're focusing our youth activities for early summer on Summer Day Camp and hopefully Youth Soccer with both to start in June. Of course, these plans are subject to change.

We're using the term "reopen", but that's actually incorrect. Your Y is already open. It's just our facility is closed to our normal fitness, well-being, social, youth and family activities.

During the "Stay at Home" period our Y has been providing child care for children of healthcare industry and safety personnel, so that they can keep our community healthy and safe. We've been calling older adult members to check in and make sure they're ok. We've been finding ways to virtually connect youth in Marion Mentors with their mentors. We've been providing virtual content on health and well-being for our entire community helping people find ways to exercise and be well while staying at home.

Your Y isn't our building. We're an association of people; our members, staff, volunteers & donors; who come together to strengthen our community. Thanks for being part of the Marion Family YMCA!

I hope you are well. If you need something or need help staying well, please reach out. We'll do our best to get you connected to the right resource.

Theresa

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(if we don't answer, leave a message so we can return your call)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Even after we reopen, we plan on continuing our virtual presence. If you enjoy our online fitness content, please continue to visit our website marionymca.org, [Facebook at Marion Family YMCA](#), [Instagram @marionohioy](#), or [Twitter @ymca_marion](#). You can also subscribe to [our Youtube Channel](#).

In May, we're not going to draft or otherwise charge membership dues. You will still be a member, but with no fees. We also plan on giving you credit for the days we were closed in March. That will reduce your first draft (probably in June). If you'd like to support our work by paying May membership dues, please let us know. Just email mharris@marionfamilyymca.org, complete [this quick form](#) or call 740-725-9622 and let us know you're Staying with Us with your membership dues. If you've already told us to continue your dues - thank you!