

Dear Andover Y Community Member,

Every year, as we close out spring and welcome the excitement of summer, we take a step back to reflect and pen a letter to our amazing community of donors here at the **Andover YMCA**. This allows us to share an update on the accomplishments we have witnessed and all that we have planned for the second half of the year.

As one of our generous partners, making sure you know the latest and greatest is a high priority because, well, you help bring these shining points to life!

First, though, we want to emphasize how thankful we are for your kind welcome over the last few months. Stepping into these new leadership roles has been a truly inspiring journey, and we are humbled to carry out this work in partnership with valued members like you.

Now, let's dig into the details! We are thrilled to share that:

- Our **ForeverWell** community has seen significant growth this year, with new members joining each month and programming expanding to include new options like balance classes, hands-on outdoor activities, and off-site engagement opportunities.
- We rolled out a **new water safety offering** for kids that is open to the community for free or reduced cost to local families, which has already been a popular addition so far this year. By opening up programs like this to non-members, we can lead the way in reducing the rate of drowning incidents by ensuring that everyone has access to critical water safety skills.
- Great fun was had by all who attended our **Spring Fling event** in April which included crafts, family bingo, a bounce house, flower planting, and a bake sale.
- We are always working on ways to further partner with the Andover community. Our next community event will be a **craft fair**, the proceeds of which will go to our Annual Fund. Registration for booths is now open! Plans are also underway for an event this fall in partnership with the Anoka County Sheriff's Department, Andover Fire Department, and Andover Community Center which will feature emergency service vehicles and fun family activities to participate in. Stay tuned for more details on both events!
- The popularity of our beloved **ukulele group** continues to grow and be a wonderful way of bringing community members together.
- Our **Get Summer** program will again be offered this year, which will provide free memberships to up to 250 local teens. **Summer Power** will soon kick off as well, keeping over 200 local K-5 youth engaged and active each week throughout the summer.



We want to express our deepest gratitude for your help in making all of this (plus so much more!) possible. Your ongoing generosity empowers us to continue showing up for our community members, purposefully evolving our programs and resources to meet diverse needs. It is no exaggeration to say that together, we are making a profound impact in the lives of many.

We look forward to sharing more with you in the coming months as we foster new opportunities to explore wellness, connection, and growth.

Thank you for being a vital part of our Andover Y community!

With gratitude and well wishes for a wonderful summer ahead,



Craig Grimes
Associate Executive Director



Nicole Aurelius
Associate Executive Director