

Dear Forest Lake 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 **YMCA Forest Lake**. 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 partners, making sure you know the latest and greatest is a high priority because 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 alongside valued members like you.

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

- At the start of this year we partnered with the Forest Lake Rotary Club in February to host the **Annual Winter Plunge**. It was a great event that brought our Y community together in the coolest of ways (quite literally)!
- We are expanding our **ForeverWell programming**, including monthly health and wellness educational offerings that have engaged many members so far.
- One of our favorite community programs, **YMCA Summer Days**, is right around the corner and we can't wait! Taking place monthly in June, July, and August, each event will feature various activities for the whole family, including food trucks, bingo, fitness demos, and various activities for the kiddos. Our splash pad will also be open. We hope to see you there!
- We hosted a successful **Senior Expo** at the end of April that brought in 55 different vendors and engaged over 300 community members. Attendees were able to connect with others, participate in hands-on activities, and have access to various health and wellness resources.
- In partnership with Lakes International Language Academy (LILA), our upcoming **Summer Power** program will keep over 200 local K-5 kids engaged and active while school's out. PLUS, up to 250 teens will receive free memberships through our **Get Summer** program. We also plan to add more supplemental youth programming during the summer months and are excited to be able to support families at all stages of parenthood.



- Ensuring all community members have access to our programs and resources remains a high priority, especially as the **need for financial assistance** in areas like family memberships and youth programs continues to rise. We see the wide-ranging impact of these donor-supported scholarship dollars each day and hope to reach even more individuals and families through this funding in 2024 and beyond.

We want to express our deepest gratitude for your help in making all of this (plus so 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 Forest Lake Y community!**

With gratitude and well wishes for a wonderful summer ahead,



Lindsay Flanagan
Associate Executive Director



Chad Marker
Operations Director