

Dear White Bear 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 **White Bear Area 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 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:

- Happening soon is a **pool equipment refresh**, including updated blocks, a new diving board, and an upgraded timing system. We are grateful to be able to offer the best to the many local swim programs that rely on our space for practices and meets.
- We are excited to participate at **Marketfest** in downtown White Bear on the following Thursday evenings: June 13th, June 27th, and July 25th. Also coming up is our **Backyard BBQ** taking place here at the branch on June 18th from 4:30-7:00pm. **We hope to see you and your family at these fun community-building events!**
- During the spring months, we have been focused on **recruitment and training** as we prepare for beach season ahead, again running both the Mahtomedi Beach and Bellaire Beach lifeguard stations. As one of the **main safety certification and lifeguard training hubs** for the entire Y of the North Association, we are always looking to hire more staff, particularly in aquatics, so that we can expand our high-demand offerings like swim lessons and general open pool time. Know someone who would be interested in joining our team? Please encourage them to check our job openings page.
- Our **outdoor splash pool and slide** will open in early June (date delayed due to unexpected repairs needed). We look forward to welcoming many families as they keep cool in our pools this summer!
- We look forward to welcoming over 150 kids each week for our **youth summer programming**, as well as providing 250 teens with a free membership through our grant-funded **Get Summer** program.
- In October we will be hosting another **Senior Health and Wellness Event** – stay tuned for more information!



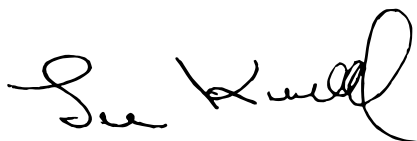
- Ensuring all members of our community have access to our programs and resources remains a high priority, especially as the **need for financial assistance** in areas like family memberships and aquatics continues to rise. We see the wide-ranging impact of these scholarship dollars each day and hope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

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 White Bear Y community!**

With gratitude and well wishes for a wonderful summer ahead,



Lee Kroll  
Executive Director



Cynthia Ellickson  
Associate Executive Director