

April 12, 2020



Dear Community,

This is our third formal message since March 16<sup>th</sup> and to say the world keeps “shifting” is – let’s be honest - a bit subtle. **But what is steadfast? Our commitment to eliminating racism and empowering women – in partnership with you.**

I hope this message finds your loved ones and you, safe, healthy and well. **We know that you have A LOT going on; we deeply appreciate that staying connected to our work continues to be part of your values.**

Our Southeast Wisconsin community has been hard hit by COVID-19 but has also witnessed an outpouring of thoughtful connection and perseverance. The most recent data indicates our region is making progress due to physical distancing and community cooperation – so **let’s stay the course.**

**At YWCA Southeast Wisconsin, we are humbled to be part of the essential network of support – for both the immediate time being and the months ahead.** In addition to continuing our economic empowerment and racial justice work remotely:

- **We have expanded services** to include a [Support Line](#), connecting the community to essential resources and providing a desperately needed sounding board;  
  
and, pending funding,
- **We are poised to be part of a collaboration** that will address a fundamental equity issue: the digital divide in the Milwaukee and Racine area communities that may prevent HS students from graduating on time. Stay tuned!

**YWCA Southeast Wisconsin is an active essential resource and service provider** during the time of COVID-19 and we have not slowed down one bit. Quite the opposite.

**Very soon, we will host two key online events:**

- **Circle of Women April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm** – connect with community in brand new ways; join us virtually for \$10 OR join us for the virtual event and at the in-person fall 2020 celebration for \$150. [Get details here.](#)
- **Stand Against Racism will feature virtual town halls on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.** From its health impact on the African American community to incidents of harassment affecting Asian Americans, we will explore how COVID-19 demonstrates our mission to eliminate racism is as timely as ever. [More information here.](#)

**As always, communication remains key.** Please follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#) and check our website for important updates.

A number of you have reached out, recognizing that the financial pressure COVID-19 creates for social sector nonprofits is immense. **Thank you for releasing restrictions on previous donations** and frequently asking how you can help further, even as **none of us knows precisely what comes next**. If you would like to provide financial support you can [donate here](#). Anything you are able to share is welcome at any time.

Most of all,, thank you for taking the time to learn below how **we remain focused on the health, safety and dignity of our community** – especially those who are in many different ways more vulnerable than others during a prolonged national health emergency.

If you have suggestions or ideas on how we can continue to serve, please send an email to [communication@ywcasew.org](mailto:communication@ywcasew.org).

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry Linn". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

President & CEO