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March 27, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EMERGENCY CHILD CARE AVAILABLE AT THE MID-WILLAMETTE FAMILY YMCA Effective: Monday, March 30, 2020

(Albany, Oregon) - The Mid-Willamette Family YMCA will be opening Emergency Child Care to help during this critical time. We're listening to our community needs, and want to make an impact by providing critical services during this COVID-19 crisis.

Starting Monday, March 30, the Y will be an Emergency Child Care provider for families in our community who need our help.

Essential staff including emergency responders, medical personnel, as well as others providing critical operations outside of the home who need help right now.

Long shifts, plus the burden they have accepted by being on the frontline, is burden enough. We need to work together to lessen the impact on their families. The YMCA wants to help make this an easier time for them by providing a safe and nurturing environment for their children when they are not able to be home.

Details:

- Applications for emergency child care (ages 3 and up) are open now
- Hours of operation: Monday through Friday 6:30 am to 7:00 pm
- Fees will be assessed on a sliding scale and the Y will make special accommodations to ensure people are not turned away based on cost
- Staff will only be assigned to one group of kids in a designated area, limited to only ten children (five classroom spaces will be available.)

The Y will be implementing isolation and health safety standards required by the Early Learning Division of the Department of Education. We have a well reputed preschool program and are humbled by the opportunity to serve the community as an Emergency Child Care provider during this crisis. As long as families continue to work outside of the home, children need safe places to go.

The Early Learning Division recommends families for whom child care is not absolutely necessary to keep their children at home.

To apply for a spot in our Emergency Child Care program, contact us at 541-926-4488 between 9 am and 3 pm Monday through Friday, or email familydirector@ymcaalbany.org

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These are unprecedented times – times that challenge the way in which we, at the Mid-Willamette Family YMCA, work to strengthen our community as we have for over 60 years.

Today, our community is going through unprecedented challenges. Though our doors may be closed, we are still working to meet the needs of our friends and neighbors in these uncertain times. That's why we're asking our members and the community at large to stay with us.

Each year, the Mid-Willamette YMCA reaches more than 6,100 people across the community through programs that help everyone reach their full potential, including afterschool programs, water safety, and early childhood development programs. Since the COVID-19 situation arose, the Y shifted its focus and responded quickly as the needs of our community changed.

We are being as fluid as we can right now with limited resources. This crisis was not in our budget, and we have lots of responsibilities right now to make sure we continue to be relevant in our community when it matters most.

Please consider making a gift today to help your Mid-Willamette Family YMCA make an impact during this critical time. This is more than just a tax deductible donation. Join us in helping support our community's needs during this pandemic. For more information on how you can help the YMCA financially, please email resourcedirector@ymcaalbany.org

To stay informed on the latest news and information from the Y, you can OPT-IN to our text service for members: text YMCA to 833-318-0512

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The Y is the leading nonprofit committed to strengthening our community by connecting all people to their potential, purpose and each other. Working locally, we focus on empowering young people, improving health and well-being and inspiring action in and across communities.

We're for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility.
ymcaalbany.org