Dear South Shore YMCA Supporter,

We have entered an unprecedented time in history. As we face the immense challenges of the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis, we are truly in this together. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep yourself, your family, friends and our community safe and healthy. By supporting one another with courage and compassion, we will all get through.

Since our Y facilities have temporarily closed, we know our members are missing the workouts, classes, Y programs and treasured connections that have grown over the years with our staff and fellow members. However, during this time of crisis, the Y’s channeling our energy and focus to provide the emergency support that is needed for the most vulnerable in our community. As donors, your support is more crucial now than it has ever been before.

Thanks to the generosity of our community partners, the South Shore YMCA is able to maintain operations of our food pantry at our Germantown Neighborhood Center, providing more food to more people as the demand has doubled and continues to grow.

We are partnering with the City of Quincy and Father Bill’s & MainSpring to create a temporary emergency shelter in our Quincy YMCA field house to help our city’s shelters practice social distancing guidelines that will protect shelter guests and the community from exposure to COVID-19.

Our Y was selected by the state to operate two Emergency Childcare sites at our Early Learning Centers in Hanover and North Quincy, where teachers are providing much-needed care and support for children of essential personnel, first responders and medical workers.

Nearly 95% of our South Shore Y employees have been furloughed due to the closures, and we are doing all that we can to support them. As we are self-insured for unemployment benefits, we will pay 50% of employees’ usual salary during furlough, and eligible staff will also retain medical benefits for as long as we can fund them. That said, our reserves as a non-profit are not infinite. Nearly 95% of our South Shore Y employees have been furloughed due to the closures, and we are doing all that we can to support them. As we are self-insured for unemployment benefits, we will pay 50% of employees’ usual salary during furlough, and eligible staff will also retain medical benefits for as long as we can fund them. That said, our reserves as a non-profit are not infinite.

Thanks to a generous donor, we have seeded an Employee Emergency Fund and ask that our community join us in supporting our caring and committed Y staff.

These are the reasons we are asking you to stay with us as a cause-driven member of the South Shore YMCA community. By staying with us, you ensure our Y remains equipped to provide a bright future for all residents of the South Shore when this crisis is over.

Since 1892, the South Shore YMCA has operated on the premise that at least “one door should swing open continuously” for all. For over 125 years, we have walked boldly toward challenges, and we unswervingly continue to do so today.

I hope you, your family and loved ones are safe and well. Thank you for your support of the Y, and for staying with us.

Sincerely,
Paul J. Gorman
President & CEO
South Shore YMCA
**SOUTH SHORE YMCA FOOD PANTRY OPEN DURING PANDEMIC**

While closing our facilities in mid-March was the correct move for the safety and protection of all, it meant the possibility that some local residents may not have access to the critical programs and services they rely on,” said South Shore YMCA President & CEO, Paul Gorman. “It is more important than ever to live our YMCA mission of serving and strengthening our community, I thank our staff, our members and supporters across the South Shore who are supporting these efforts. Together, we will get through this crisis, take care of ourselves and our families, and consider supporting the most vulnerable residents of our community as well.”

The South Shore YMCA is feeding families on Wednesdays and Fridays. We are also delivering meals to seniors thanks to partnerships with local restaurants and caterers. Purchasing meals is crucial to seniors who cannot shop for food. Our work is made possible by donations from many of our members and community leaders including the Greater Boston Food Bank, Trader Joe’s in Hingham and Tufts Health Plan. We are registering and serving all Quincy residents in need during this crisis.

For information on ways you can help the Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, visit our website at ssymca.org. Thank you to our many supporters who have generously donated time and we greatly appreciate anyone else who can help ensure everyone has food during this difficult time.

**SOUTH SHORE YMCA OPERATING TWO EMERGENCY CHILDCARE SITES**

When all is said and done, the true heroes of the coronavirus pandemic will be the health care professionals in clinics, community health centers and hospitals large and small who stood on the front lines of the battle against the invisible enemy. Shoulder-to-shoulder with them will be the first responders and the people who made our food systems run, from top to bottom, without fail. And right behind them will be the support staff who took care of the day-to-day needs of those workers, like the childcare professionals at the Y’s Early Learning Centers in North Quincy and Hanover.

“The drop-in system we’ve operating has proven to be a relief for vulnerable families and members of the essential workforce,” said Kristine Sowin, the Y’s Vice President of Youth Development. “The Y is prepared. We are fortunate to have our South Shore YMCA educators and leadership staff to provide this valuable service to our community. We will take care of the kids so their parents can take care of us.”

The outpouring of thanks from families has been generous and heartfelt. “My mother is the only other person I have to help watch my kids,” said one mom, “and she is too old to be watching them all day. It is so great that you are here for us.”

**EMERGENCY SHELTER**

Starting on Wednesday, April 1, the South Shore YMCA Quincy Branch opened its gymnasium to approximately 50 individuals currently staying at Father Bill’s Place, the emergency shelter operated by Father Bill’s & Massachusetts at 38 Broad Street in Quincy. The temporary shelter provides beds, meals, and supportive services to elders and individuals with underlying health conditions, who are among the most vulnerable to the coronavirus.

“We made one phone call to South Shore YMCA President Paul Gorman to explore this idea, and his response was immediate: ‘What do you need and how can we help?’” said Quincy Mayor Tom Koch. “I am extraordinarily grateful to the SSYMCA’s partnership on this important effort to protect some of the most vulnerable members of our community, and the hard fast work of the team at Father Bill’s to make it happen.”

“The YMCA has been a part of the Quincy community for more than 125 years,” said South Shore YMCA President & CEO Paul Gorman. “We have always had a strong relationship with the City and the Mayor’s office and are happy to support the community in any way we can. We pour our hearts into our social services work, which is at the core of our mission. We are proud and honored to work alongside the City and Father Bill’s Place in this time of need.”

**WHY I GIVE – GEORGE BURKE**

Formerly known as the Frozen 5K, the South Shore Y’s signature race has been named for a Quincy community champion, George “Trigger” Burke, since 2015. Burke, an esteemed lawyer, rose to stardom on the basketball courts of Quincy High, UMass Amherst and the Boston Celtics. It all started for Burke at the Y. “When I was a young boy, I attended camp through the Quincy YMCA,” said Burke. “I started playing basketball in that gym on Washington Street in the YMCA and ended up with the greatest team ever in the history of basketball. People ask me why do you give to the Y and it’s simple. It’s because they do so much good in our community.” Burke is living proof.

**WEEKLY COMMUNITY SUPPORT CHALLENGE**

Each week we are partnering with local businesses and restaurants to provide supplies, hot meals, and a bit of hope and joy to those who rely on our Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, Emergent Childcare Centers and Quincy YMCA Emergency Shelter.

Your donation will help these programs to support those in need while supporting local businesses. See what we are doing each week... and join us! Visit ssymca.org and click on community support. You make this happen!

**SUPPORT OUR TASTE OF THE SOUTH SHORE RESTAURANTS**

**NEW DATE SEPTEMBER 23, 2020**

Each year, about forty restaurants, breweries and distillers support The Taste of the South Shore by donating their best samples of food to our guests. Now, we ask that you support them during the current public health situation by ordering take-out or delivery food from them. Together, we can make a difference and support each other to strengthen our community.

**WHY I GIVE – GEORGE BURKE**

Formerly known as the Frozen 5K, the South Shore Y’s signature race has been named for a Quincy community champion, George “Trigger” Burke, since 2015. Burke, an esteemed lawyer, rose to stardom on the basketball courts of Quincy High, UMass Amherst and the Boston Celtics. It all started for Burke at the Y. “When I was a young boy, I attended camp through the Quincy YMCA,” said Burke. “I started playing basketball in that gym on Washington Street in the YMCA and ended up with the greatest team ever in the history of basketball. People ask me why do you give to the Y and it’s simple. It’s because they do so much good in our community.” Burke is living proof.

**ANTI-HUNGER INITIATIVE**

The Dunkin’ Joy in Childhood Foundation believes in helping our most vulnerable youth, combating hunger and providing comfort for kids dealing with health issues. In Quincy, the Foundation, the charitable arm of Dunkin Donuts, is wonderfully represented by Victor and Octavio Carvalho. The Foundation recently awarded the South Shore YMCA $5,000 to ease hunger insecurity in Germantown. This summer, Germantown kids attending camp will each be given a backpack full of food on Fridays to take home for the weekend, bridging them through what can be tough days between regularly scheduled meals at camp.

**Weekly Community Support Challenge**

Each week we are partnering with local businesses and restaurants to provide supplies, hot meals, and a bit of hope and joy to those who rely on our Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, Emergent Childcare Centers and Quincy YMCA Emergency Shelter.

Your donation will help these programs to support those in need while supporting local businesses. See what we are doing each week... and join us! Visit ssymca.org and click on community support. You make this happen!

**Step up to the challenge at ssymca.org/covid19/support**

**Support our taste of the south shore restaurants**

**NEW DATE SEPTEMBER 23, 2020**

Each year, about forty restaurants, breweries and distillers support The Taste of the South Shore by donating their best samples of food to our guests. Now, we ask that you support them during the current public health situation by ordering take-out or delivery food from them. Together, we can make a difference and support each other to strengthen our community.
South Shore YMCA Food Pantry Open During Pandemic

While closing our facilities in mid-March was the correct move for the safety and protection of all, it meant the possibility that some local residents may not have access to the critical programs and services they rely on,” said South Shore YMCA President & CEO, Paul Gorman. “It is more important than ever to live our YMCA mission of serving and strengthening our community. I thank our staff, our members and supporters across the South Shore who are supporting these efforts. Together, we will get through this crisis. Take care of yourselves and your families, and consider supporting the most vulnerable residents of our community as well.”

The South Shore YMCA is feeding families on Wednesdays and Fridays. We are also delivering meals to seniors thanks to partnerships with local restaurants and caterers. Purchasing meals is crucial to seniors who cannot shop for food. Our work is made possible by donations from many of our Y members and community leaders including the Greater Boston Food Bank, Trader Joe’s in Hingham andTufts Health Plan. We are registering and serving all Quincy residents in need during this crisis.

For information on ways you can help the Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, visit our website at ssymca.org. Thank you to our partners and supporters named below who are supporting these efforts. Together, we will get through this crisis.

Step Up to the Challenge at SSYMCA.org/COVID19Support

Support Our Taste of the South Shore Restaurants

Each week, we are partnering with local businesses and restaurants to provide supplies, hot meals, and a bit of hope and joy to those who rely on our Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, Emergency Childcare Centers and Quincy YMCA Emergency Shelter.

Your donation will help these programs to support those in need while supporting local businesses.

You make this happen!

New Date September 23, 2020

Each year, about forty restaurants, breweries and distillers support The Taste of the South Shore by donating their best samples of food to our guests. Now, we ask that you support them during the current public health situation by ordering take-out or delivery food from them. Together, we can make a difference and support each other to strengthen our community.

Why I Give – George Burke

Formerly known as the Frozen 5K, the South Shore Y’s signature race has been named for a Quincy community champion, George “Trigger” Burke, since 2015. Burke, an esteemed lawyer, rose to stardom on the basketball courts of Quincy High, UMass Amherst and the Boston Celtics. It all started for Burke at the Y. “When I was a young boy, I attended camp through the YMCA,” said Burke. “I started playing basketball on that gym on Washington Street in the Y and ended up with the greatest team ever in the history of basketball. People ask me ‘why do you give to the Y’ and it’s simple. It’s because they do so much good in our community.” Burke is living proof.

Anti-Hunger Initiative

The Dunkin’ Joy in Childhood Foundation believes in helping our most vulnerable youth, combating hunger and providing comfort for kids dealing with health issues. In Quincy, the foundation provided a grant of Dunkin Donuts, is wonderfully represented by Victor and Octavio Corvello. The foundation recently awarded the South Shore YMCA $5,000 to ease hunger insecurity in Germantown. This summer, Germantown kids attending camp will each be given a backpack full of food on Fridays to take home for the weekend, bridging them through what can be tough days between regularly scheduled meals at camp.

Weekly Community Support Challenge

Each week we are partnering with local businesses and restaurants to provide supplies, hot meals, and a bit of hope and joy to those who rely on our Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry, Emergency Childcare Centers and Quincy YMCA Emergency Shelter.

Your donation will help these programs to support those in need while supporting local businesses.

You make this happen!
STAY WITH US!

During our temporary closure, please consider converting your Y membership fee to a tax-deductible donation to help our community during this crisis.

Simply call 617-479-8500 or visit ssymca.org/donatemembership to donate.

Thank you for your support.

MAKE A DONATION SSYMCA.ORG/DONATE

DONATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP SSYMCA.ORG/DONATEMEMBERSHIP

STAY CONNECTED AS YOU #STAYWITHUS

It’s hard to imagine more difficult circumstances for operating our Y during this time. We are a community organization. We bring people together – from all backgrounds and circumstances – and create personal connections that change lives through membership and programs. We are committed to working safely and confidently as we move through and emerge from this health crisis together.

We greatly appreciate those who have donated to support the YMCA to provide essential services and enable us to stay strong and ready to serve you and our communities. Members have chosen to continue to draft their dues as a donation. Companies have donated food and items. Businesses, Foundations and Friends have made much needed financial donations.

Visit our website at ssymca.org to see the list of donors, testimonials of appreciation and weekly challenges of how we are stepping up to meet the needs of our community.

THE SOUTH SHORE YMCA | THE BETTER YOU BELONGS HERE.

SA UTH SHORE YMCA DONOR NEWSLETTER

A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear South Shore YMCA Supporter,

We have entered an unprecedented time in history. As we face the immense challenges of the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis, we are truly in this together. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep yourself, your family, friends and our community safe and healthy. By supporting one another with courage and compassion, we will all get through.

Since our Y facilities have temporarily closed, we know our members are missing the workouts, classes, Y programs and treasured connections that have grown over the years with our staff and fellow members. However, during this time of crisis, the Y’s channeling our energy and focus to provide the emergency support that is needed for the most vulnerable in our community. As donors, your support is more crucial now than it has ever been before.

Thanks to the generosity of our community partners, the South Shore YMCA is able to maintain operations of our food pantry at our Germantown Neighborhood Center, providing more food to more people as the demand has doubled and continues to grow.

We are partnering with the City of Quincy and Father Bill’s & MainSpring to create a temporary 24/7 emergency shelter in our Quincy YMCA field house to help our city’s shelters practice social distancing guidelines that will protect shelter guests and the community from exposure to COVID-19.

Our Y was selected by the state to operate two Emergency Childcare sites at our Early Learning Centers in Hanover and North Quincy, where teachers are providing much-needed care and support for children of essential personnel, first responders and medical workers.

Nearly 95% of our South Shore Y employees have been furloughed due to the closures, and we are doing all that we can to support them. As we are self-insured for unemployment benefits, we will pay 50% of employees’ usual salary during furlough, and eligible staff will also retain medical benefits for as long as we can fund them. That said, our reserves as a non-profit are not infinite.

Thanks to a generous donor, we have seeded an Employee Emergency Fund and ask that our community join us in supporting our caring and committed Y staff.

These are the reasons we are asking you to stay with us as a cause-driven member of the South Shore YMCA community. By staying with us, you ensure our Y remains equipped to provide a bright future for all residents of the South Shore when this crisis is over.

Since 1892, the South Shore YMCA has operated on the premise that at least “one door should swing open continuously” for all. For over 125 years, we have walked boldly toward challenges, and we unwaveringly continue to do so today.

I hope you, your family and loved ones are safe and well. Thank you for your support of the Y, and for staying with us.

Sincerely,

Paul

Paul J. Gorman
President & CEO
South Shore YMCA