**YMCA CAMP BENSON SUMMER CAMP**

**Is YMCA Camp Benson still planning to have camp this summer?**

Yes. Unless government mandates and the guidance of health officials require otherwise, YMCA Camp Benson is planning to offer an exceptional experience this summer. As summer approaches, YMCA Camp Benson will inform parents and families about details. Registration is now open for Camp Benson.

Please visit [www.ymcacampbenson.org](http://www.ymcacampbenson.org) to register.

**REOPENING TIMELINE**

**When will YMCA Camp Benson reopen?**

YMCA Camp Benson will reopen when government officials permit & the guidance from health organizations support that it is safe to do so. YMCA Camp Benson and the Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA staff are working hard to support the critical needs in our communities at this time, including:

* Free Grab & Go meals for families in the back parking lot of the Rock Falls Middle School and at the Jefferson (Sterling) parking lot.
* We continue to support our Y members by providing them with virtual options to stay healthy, active, and connected through virtual wellness programs on the Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA’s Facebook page. Please visit [www.srfymca.org](http://www.srfymca.org) to learn more.
* YMCA staff are making weekly checks with our seniors and offering assistance as needed.

**What is the YMCA doing to prepare for reopening?**

Caring for YMCA facilities and assets: **YMCA Camp Benson is thoroughly cleaning each cabin, facility and all equipment**. YCB is making as many cost-effective enhancements as possible while our facilities are temporarily closed.

**What services are being provided by YMCA Camp Benson at this time?**

In addition to the critical services that the Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA is providing to the community that were previously shared (Grab & Go Meals, Virtual Wellness Programs, etc.), YMCA Camp Benson is offering a wide range of digital and virtual services to the community at <https://www.facebook.com/ymcacampbenson>.  The content is updated to several times a week and the list continues to be expanded beyond the current offering of:

* Scavenger Hunts
* Fun challenges and outdoor activities
* Science Experiments
* Youth Development Programs

**MEMBERSHIP**

**Are membership payments continuing at this time?**

The Sterling-Rock Falls Family YMCA and YMCA Camp Benson are nonprofit charity that relies on membership dues and donations to support the majority of the work we do. Without ongoing support from YMCA members, there would be a critical gap in the vital services the Y provides to the community. While being sensitive to individual financial needs and circumstances, the YMCA respectfully requests that members continue their membership payments at this time. **All membership payments made while the YMCA is closed will be recognized as tax-deductible charitable contributions to the YMCA.** **Even if you don’t itemize on your 2020 tax form, you can now take a deduction for up to $300 in charitable contributions under the CARES Act** that was recently passed. If you are unable to continue your regular membership payments, but still want to help in some capacity, please email member services at [service@srfymca.org](mailto:service@srfymca.org) .  The Y is a 501(c)3, nonprofit organization that exists to serve the community and we have accordingly transitioned the use of YMCA facilities and refocused our YMCA staff in an effort to meet the most critical needs in our community at this time. Thank you for partnering with us!

**COMMUNICATION**

**If you have any further questions please feel free to contact our YMCA Camp Benson Camp Director, Gwyn “Mama G” Bemis at any time.**

[gwyn@ymcacampbenson.org](mailto:gwyn@ymcacampbenson.org)