

Dear Members:

One of the tremendous attributes of any YMCA is that our members are drawn from many ethnic, religious, and economic groups. By welcoming all people, diversity has become a rich tradition. Like many organizations our costs have increased significantly and they don't differentiate between a non-profit organization and others. We all face these dramatic increases such as insurance, employee benefits, utilities, supply costs, and others. Therefore, we must slightly adjust our rates for 2007 to protect our ability to operate. The new modest increases are reflected on the back of this page.

However, not everyone can afford the Y as costs exceed an individual or families ability to pay. Therefore the Regional YMCA is introducing a new program called Open Doors. The Open Door program is a membership enrollment system based on household income. Participation is easy.

Individuals who earn less then \$30,000 annually and families who earn less than \$50,000 are eligible to receive a subsidy reduction off their membership of 25%. To qualify the current or potential member (family) need only present their federal tax return or other tax documents showing total household income. For example, line 22 on the 1040 form shows total household income.. These guidelines are firm and there will be no exceptions so we are fair to everyone. Current members are eligible either by a reduction of their bank draft or at their annual renewal time. We will return the 1040 or other documents immediately so confidentiality is maintained.

The Y will also continue its financial aid program for those who have economic, physical, or social needs creating an inability to pay. These requests are confidential and as always will remain so.

With the growing obesity epidemic in our country, and as drowning remains the second leading cause of unintentional deaths among young children in the United States, it is increasingly more important that all people have access to the life enhancing services of the Y. We hope the new Open Door program provides this opportunity to many more individuals and families. Your Regional Y remains committed to building strong kids, strong families, and a strong community.

Sincerely,

Gary Kozak

President/CEO