



4/21/2020

Dear CMAK Friends and Family,

We hope this e-mail finds you healthy, safe, and well in this uncertain time. The CMAK foundation has taken a step back because of the unimaginable impact the coronavirus has put on so many individuals, families, businesses, our government and most importantly our non-profits. We understand that so many of us are facing an unprecedented strain on finances, budgets, loss of staff and overall operations.

This year was supposed to be our largest Race4Chase triathlon training season; twenty-nine programs in four states, unfortunately this will not come to fruition. It is with a heavy heart we have to make the decision to cancel the 2020 RACE4CHASE triathlon training season. This decision comes with great sadness for all of us as we know it is not what any of us would have chosen; this conclusion has been a collaborative effort with Jim O'Rourke & Mark Pooler (CT) Mike Miller (RI) and (Tim Connolly SC).

We are so very grateful to the YMCA's through the past six years for being our biggest supporters and advocates in growing this amazing program to honor the life and spirit of Chase. You have been our biggest champions and have fulfilled our mission year after year. Our hearts were always filled with the smiles on children's faces when they completed their first triathlon and said, "I did it!" We have always been thankful to all of the coaches, Jr coaches, special guests, and volunteers for supporting and working our events, teaching all of our athletes to swim, bike and run, along with all of the aspects of health, wellness, kindness, and motivation. Through Chase's spirit you have all helped fill our athletes with inspiration.

Unfortunately, we understand that many families have been with us from the very beginning and have come to rely on the program year after year and we are so sorry to have to make this difficult choice. Our intention is to keep Chase's memory alive through the spirit of



Race4Chase even if we can't hold the triathlon events as we had originally planned. Motivation, self-confidence, kindness discipline, along with sportsmanship, drive and determination are all things that Race4Chase values and can still be taught beyond our training program.

The Chase Michael-Anthony Kowalski Sandy Hook Memorial Foundation will continue to support our YMCA partnerships old and new along with the Newtown community center through this difficult time and please know that we are forever grateful for all that you have done for us in the past. We will set our sights on the future and look to 2021 for our return to Triumph!

Thank you for being a part of Chase's legacy.

Measure your life in LOVE,

Kevin Grimes
Executive director

Rebecca & Stephen Kowalski
Chase's Mom and Dad