

CORONAVIRUS IMPACT

Due to COVID-19, Ranch Camp has cancelled its typical sessions and alternative programs for summer 2020. This includes our Family Camp program. Please see the update in the link below for more information. [View Latest Update ->](#)



UPDATED, May 29 10:30 AM

Ranch Camp Families,

This morning you received the update on summer programs at the JCC Denver. We wanted to follow up with you and give you some more specifics on our Family Camp program.

If we have learned anything during this new reality that we are living in, it is that flexibility is the key to making it through the day to day. Fortunately, we are camp people, and flexibility is at the core of the work we do. When we made the decision to cancel our regular summer season, we stretched and put

together the plans for Family Camp which we felt would give the connection to the things we are all craving right now: camp, nature, Judaism, and most of all, each other.

We have continued to follow along with the updated and ever changing guidance of the CDC, the American Camping Association, and the local, state, federal government. **With our most up-to-date information, we have made the heartbreaking decision to not run Family Camp this summer.**

We will be in touch with those that have already registered to discuss next steps with tuition (refund, 2021 credit, and/or donation), and we will spread our update to those that have expressed interest in the greater community.

Flexibility isn't always comfortable. It requires a lot of patience and deep breaths as we stretch, reach, twist, and turn. At the end of the day though, the health and safety of our community will always come first.

Thank you for moving through this time with us, hand in hand. We are so grateful for your constant love and support. We are so lucky to be a part of the best community.

Until we see a Colorado Sunset together,

Noah Gallagher | JCC Ranch Camp Director

Ryan Bocchino | JCC Ranch Camp Associate Director

Carly Coons | JCC Ranch Camp Assistant Director

UPDATED, MAY 29, 8:00 AM

Dear JCC Community,

Despite our planning and best intentions, the JCC Senior Leadership Team, with the support of the Board of Directors, has made the difficult decision to alter the reopening plan that we previously communicated. This decision is based on the state and local guidelines regarding the requirements that must be met for us to gather safely as well as a deep review of our current financial situation. We have set forth below our revised opening plan and will provide additional information to those who are directly impacted by these changes over the next few days.

As a mission-based, non-profit organization that has served this community for nearly 100 years, we are conscious of our obligation to those most in need of our services while at the same time ensuring

the health and safety of the entire community.

Our current financial and membership model is not built to withstand the restrictions surrounding large gatherings set forth by state and local officials. As a result, we are unable to operate many of our summer programs and thus are yet again forced to make some tough decisions. While we value all of our members, **our organization feels it is crucial to support the members of our community who are deemed essential workers and who have young children at home.**

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SELECT JCC PROGRAMS?

ELS and Camp Shai Pod Camps: These programs will be running at the JCC this summer, with priority registration given to families who have essential workers in the household. We will also continue to offer family engagement programs online open to all.

Fitness Center and Tennis Center: The Fitness Center and Tennis Center will not reopen for in-person activities on June 1. We are continuing to explore options to re-start those programs in a safe and economically beneficial manner, while still meeting government guidelines. We will continue to offer fitness programming online, by way of our [Facebook Group](#).

Family Camp at Ranch Camp: We have made the extremely difficult choice to cancel Family Camp at Ranch Camp.

These decisions will allow us to focus our time, energy, and resources to safely reopening the ELS and Camp Shai Pod Camps while continuing to work towards reopening all other programs in a safe and efficient manner.

Through this lens, we are still evaluating our ability to offer the Wolf Theatre Academy and to reopen our gorgeous, **newly remodeled outdoor pool**. We must be confident that proceeding with these openings will not have a negative impact on the health and safety of our ELS and Camp Shai children, who will be at our facility throughout the summer months.

Unfortunately, government operating guidelines, our financial situation, and the end of our government assistance program funding (PPP) is forcing us to reduce compensation and furlough additional members of our wonderful staff. We have made these difficult decisions with a heavy heart, and I cannot be more appreciative of this dedicated, creative, and tenacious group of people who have continued to work tirelessly to serve our community during such uncertain and difficult times.

The world in which we live poses daily challenges for all of us. As we continue to move through this period, rest assured that we miss you, we think of you often, and we look forward to the day when it

will be safe for all of us to be together at our beloved JCC.

In the following days, we will be sending emails to all Fitness members, Tennis members and Family Camp enrollees with more information about the impact that these decisions have on these programs.

Thank you for your continued support and Shabbat Shalom,

Lara Knuettel

Chief Executive Officer