



May 20, 2025

Warmest greetings, Friend and Partner of the Burnsville Y,

Speaking of warm, it's hard to believe we're quickly approaching the start of summer! Doesn't it feel like just yesterday that we were pulling our heavy coats, mittens, and hats from storage?

Well, just as quickly as the seasons seem to turn here in Minnesota, our work here at the Burnsville YMCA is also continually evolving to meet the needs of our community. And now that the winter gear is again out of sight and we eagerly greet summer, we are taking time to reflect on the progress we've made so far in 2025 and want to share a bit about what you can look forward to in the second half of the year.

Let's dive into some updates, shall we?

- **Expanded Evening Programming:** We introduced evening programs every night of the week to create more opportunities for youth and families to connect, engage, and thrive. This initiative is rooted in the broader goal of supporting family wellbeing through consistent, accessible programming.
- **Community Collaboration for Family Support:** Our Y organized and hosted a community engagement workshop that brought together local leaders and representatives from a variety of entities—including the City of Burnsville, two school districts, the Burnsville Police Department, Dakota County Public Health, and several nonprofits—to explore how to better support families. The goal was to foster collaboration and identify meaningful ways the Y could lean in and make a difference.
- **Outdoor Family Fun Day:** One of our favorite annual events to host, Outdoor Family Fun Day, will again take place in August, bringing together various YMCA program areas—such as camp, sports, and childcare—alongside external community partners like the City of Burnsville, local outdoor organizations, and the Minnesota Zoo. It's a vibrant, inclusive way to engage families and celebrate community. Stay tuned for event details coming soon!
- **Program and Schedule Refresh:** We've been actively re-evaluating and updating our program offerings and schedules to better align with the needs of families and support whole-person wellbeing. This includes more convenient scheduling and the launch of a new small group training circuit that reflects current interest and demand.
- **Strengthening Member Connections:** We are excited to continue leading personalized outreach to reconnect and deepen relationships with our member base. Through individual conversations and listening to members' stories, we're learning more about community needs and fostering a stronger sense of belonging at our Y.

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Ongoing support from partners like you is the driving force behind these achievements, our plans for the future, and so much more. Your inspiring commitment helps us grow and adapt our programs so that no community member has to question whether the Burnsville Y is a place for them.

We are beyond grateful to have you by our side in this important work, positively impacting many lives in many ways.

As we plan for the future, we're excited to keep you updated on our journey as we create new ways to foster wellbeing and strengthen our community.

Once again, thank you for being a vital part of why and how we carry out our mission each day. We wish you a fantastic summer ahead and can't wait to see all the good we'll accomplish together in the months and years to come!

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Katherine Tonsager".

Katherine Tonsager
Associate Executive Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Yohanis Shitta".

Yohanis Shitta
Operations Director