



May 20, 2025

Dear Friend and Partner of the Eagan Y,

As spring winds down and summer approaches, a season full of energy and opportunity is on the horizon for the Eagan community. As you make your plans for the months ahead, I invite you to take a moment to read through some recent highlights from the YMCA in Eagan and explore some exciting offerings coming your way!

My team and I are delighted to have you as a partner and want to make sure you are informed of all the amazing happenings at our Y as we continue to bring people of all ages and backgrounds together to connect, grow, and thrive.

Before I get into all that I'm eager to share with you, I'd like to take a moment to share my immense gratitude. I have been in my role for almost a year now, and I've realized there is something truly special about this community's kindness, passion, and support.

You know, generosity takes many forms—I have seen people offer their time to lift up others, their ability to teach someone something new, and their desire to donate monetarily to those in need. I am truly grateful to be a part of this community and have generous donors like you alongside me in this important work.

Now, let's dive into some updates, shall we?

- Our Y continues to be a **leader in providing childcare services** to the broader community, both in Eagan and surrounding areas. We serve over 3,700 kids each year through our School Age Care programming, Early Childhood Learning Center, and several summer program offerings. We are lucky to have an amazing partnership with the local school district and **continue to expand** to provide more schools with safe, fun, and enriching care for youth before and after school.
- We continue to focus on **ensuring all members in our community have access** to our programs and resources. The need for financial assistance for our largest program – childcare – continues to rise. We just had our awesome **Y Day of Giving** event, where so many of our members generously opened their wallets to contribute toward our scholarship fund so that no family will be turned away from our Y.
- In May and June, we are excited to pilot **new family programming opportunities** to better serve our members based on needs and interests. A few of these include family Group X classes, family pool nights, and various drop-in family nights that offer bingo, board games, and crafts. Be on the lookout for more details and a calendar of events coming soon!
- Our ForeverWell community continues to thrive, and we look forward to participating in National Senior Health and Wellness Day at the end of May. Many local partners will come in to share how we can support our seniors all year round. All are welcome!

(continued on backside)

- This year is a big year for our **Annual Duck Race** as it marks the 10th anniversary of this beloved event! The race will be held at Cascade Bay on **July 13th**. This is a wonderful way to support our Y and engage with the broader Eagan community. Raffle tickets will be available at the front desk at the end of May, and information on reduced price entry tickets for the event will be available soon. Hope to see you there for our most fun race yet!
- Our **Get Summer program** is back this year, providing another 250 local teens with a free membership so they can stay active and connected with peers while school is out. Also, **new teen-centered programming** will be coming in late June and into July, so stay tuned for some great opportunities for our youth to get engaged with!
- As you probably know, we recently transitioned to a **new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system**. While it hasn't been without a few bumps in the road, our team has worked very hard to continue to serve our community with the highest standards possible, and I am very grateful for all our wonderful staff who have stepped up to assist in this massive undertaking. We are excited to be able to **serve our community in new and improved ways** through more advanced technology and appreciate your patience as we've navigated this transition!

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 Eagan 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.



I look forward to connecting with you more in the months (and years!) ahead to discuss how we can continue to partner and grow our community together. Once again, thank you for being a vital part of why and how we carry out our mission each day.

Wishing you a warm and happy summer,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Wicklander'.

Melissa Wicklander
Associate Executive Director