



May 20, 2025

Warmest greetings, Friend and Partner of the New Hope 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 New Hope 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, I am 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?

- Our ECLC teams were excited to replace the tire pieces in our **playground area** with indoor/outdoor green turf – a big upgrade for both play and safety, thanks in large part to support from donors (like you!).
- Ongoing donor support is also allowing us to serve more families and individuals through **scholarship assistance**, providing discounts for membership, swim lessons, sports programs, and more so that cost is never a barrier to accessing all that we offer.
- We hosted a successful **Splash into Summer community event** last June where the police department provided food and the fire department brought in a fire truck, hooking up the hose for kids to use. Our bouncy houses were out as well, and our Splash Deck officially opened. Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, June 24th from 5:30–7:30pm** for this year's event!
- Our **Cookies with Santa** event was also a big success back in December, where Santa and Mrs. Claus came to hang out with kids and families, posing for photos and taking and toy orders from the kids. Much fun was had by all! We look forward to hosting this event again this year.
- In addition to our Splash into Summer event coming up in June, in the coming months we look forward to hosting a **Fall Festival** in our gymnasium as well as a **Free Farmers Market** – details for both coming soon!
- We are thrilled to see our senior population growing exponentially. **ForeverWell** classes are busy, and we are adding more to meet increasing demand. We also now offer virtual group fitness classes for this group, which has been a great alternative when we are unable to host in-person. We are also offering **more events and activities** to support senior members' needs and interests, finding that the connection and socialization aspects are just as important as exercise and staying active.
- Our team is working hard and doing awesome with cross-department collaboration, proactively strategizing to support members through recent transitions. They're also exploring **creative ways to engage families**, including family days and kids fitness classes, both of which are in the planning process.

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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 New Hope 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, I'm 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. I 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 black ink that reads "Nina Wolf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nina" and last name "Wolf" clearly distinguishable.

Nina Wolf
Associate Executive Director

