



May 30, 2026

Dear Burnsville Y Community Members,

As we reflect on the first half of the year and look ahead to summer, there's a renewed sense of energy and possibility here at the Burnsville YMCA. Each season brings change and with it, an opportunity to better serve our community in meaningful and lasting ways.

Because of ongoing support from generous donors like you, we are growing and meeting the evolving needs of all those we serve.

In 2025 alone, more than **\$418,000 in donor-supported scholarship assistance** helped reduce the cost of memberships and programs for individuals and families facing financial barriers. We also welcomed **over 1,700 new members of all ages** into our Y community and engaged **more than 1,500 kids and teens in youth programs**, providing safe, inclusive spaces to learn, play, and grow.

As we carry this momentum forward, we're excited to share how we are continuing to strengthen our community and impact in the months ahead. Here's what's on the horizon:

Expanding Community Leadership

We are actively seeking new members to join our Board who are passionate about strengthening the YMCA's role in our community. This next chapter is about bringing together leaders, advocates, and connectors who want to help shape the future of the Burnsville Y and expand our reach across Burnsville, Apple Valley, Lakeville, and Savage.

Increasing Access to Aquatics

In 2025, 382 children and adults gained essential, life-saving water safety and swimming skills through aquatics programming at our Y. We are committed to expanding these offerings to reach even more individuals this year, helping individuals of all ages build confidence in the water and develop skills that can last a lifetime.

Responding to Community Needs

We've seen a significant rise in food insecurity across our community in the past year. In response, we asked our members to step up and help, and they answered in an incredible way. Together, we've collected and donated thousands of pounds of food, toiletries, pet food, diapers, and other essential items to support those in need. This is the Y at its best — neighbors helping neighbors — and we are committed to continuing this work through 2026 and beyond.

Supporting Our Seniors

In response to changes in insurance coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield and the Silver Sneakers program, we introduced a new low-cost senior membership rate. Our goal is simple: to ensure every senior who calls our Y a second home can continue to stay active and engaged here through our ForeverWell programming. We've already seen many seniors return and are hopeful we'll welcome even more back in the coming months.

Refreshing & Adapting Our Offerings

We continue to evolve our programs and schedules better to meet the needs of today's members and families. This includes more flexible options, intentional program design, and refreshed offerings that reflect how our community wants to connect, engage, and pursue wellness and health goals. We are also excited about the recent launch of our new Y360 app, which allows members to access a variety of digital YMCA experiences wherever they are.

Strengthening Member Connections

At the heart of our work is relationship and community building. This year, we are deepening our focus on personal connections — listening, learning, and engaging with our members in more meaningful ways. These conversations are helping us foster a stronger sense of belonging across our Y, ensuring every person who walks through our doors feels seen, supported, and valued.

Thank you for being part of this work as a friend and donor. Your partnership is the fuel behind our mission, helping us create and sustain opportunities for individuals and families to grow, connect, and thrive.

We look forward to all we will accomplish together in the months and years ahead as we continue to show up for our Burnsville Y community in the ways that matter most.

With deep gratitude and wishing you a wonderful summer,



Matt Kjorstad
Executive Director



Katherine Tonsager
Senior Operations Director

P.S. Interested in getting more involved, joining our Board, or further supporting this work? Let's connect! Contact us anytime: Matt.Kjorstad@ymcanorth.org | Katherine.Tonsager@ymcanorth.org