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Levine JCC Needs You Back!



In the pre-COVID-19 world of March 13th, we woke up and started our day like any other, with plans to come to the Levine Jewish Community Center (LJCC). Whether we were coming for a morning swim in the pool, to work out in the David Silverman Fitness Center, or play tennis with friends, our plan was to come to the J. We came not only to participate in the program of choice, we came because of our relationships with our community. Because of the commitment of our members and the dedication of our staff, the LJCC was thriving,

and you could feel the energy.

Within hours of receiving word that the LJCC would need to temporarily suspend our operations, we launched JConnect, our online platform, which has delivered more than 500 programs, attended by thousands of LJCC members, community members, and family members across the country. You can now build community whenever, wherever, and with whomever you want — take a yoga class when it fits your schedule or attend the excellent LJCC Cultural Arts programs from the comfort of your couch.

During the mandated suspension of our operations and phased reopening, we have not wavered from our Mission: To enrich lives and build relationships, through quality Jewish experiences.

When we resumed operations two months later, albeit with some modifications, that energy returned and along with it, the smiles on our faces. Our community was exactly what we all needed. Since then, we have safely and successfully resumed nearly every program, service, and class. Our Tennis Facilities are thriving, our Aquatics Com-

plex is filled with the laughter of families, and our Group Fitness, Weight Training, JFORCE, Pilates, & Personal Training programs are operating both outside and inside!

Through every challenge, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to the most vulnerable members of our community. Our Oasis Senior program continues to make bi-weekly meal deliveries to seniors who are isolated and live alone, to date delivering over 2,500 meals, in partnership with locally owned businesses, FS Food Group, Phil's Deli, Izzy's Ca-

tering, and Foster-Caviness, and made possible by a COVID Response Fund Grant (United Way of the Central Carolinas/The Foundation of the Carolinas). Our Kosher BBQ continues its work to eradicate Children's Hunger, funding thousands of meals to those in increasing need. Our Butterfly Project continues to educate children about what happens when governments and individuals fail to stand up to injustice, something of which we are reminded daily.

Summer 2020 may have been different, but Camp Mindy continued to meet the needs of our community, serving over 200 campers, and will continue year-round with Camp Mindy 365, a program that will combine the best parts of Camp with online learning support for school-age families.

COVID-19 has changed the LJCC, but not all of these changes are positive ones. Due to the precipitous loss of members who canceled or froze their memberships, the LJCC will incur a financial loss *in the millions of dollars*. In order to sustain the J, over 40 staff positions were eliminated. The staff



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