

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YWCA Announces Senior Meal Program Modifications in Response to COVID-19

Phoenix, AZ, March 12, 2020 – At YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix, the health and safety of our clients, staff, and volunteers are our utmost priority. In consultation with our partners and city officials, and with an abundance of caution over COVID-19, the Valley West YWCA Senior Center will be closed to the public until further notice. Additionally, with the closure of the Glendale Community Center and Glendale Adult Center, meal service for YWCA participants will be modified to ensure that all of our participants continue to receive the nutritious meals they rely on.

“We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and will keep everyone informed as to when it is safe for us to re-open,” shared Debbie Esparza, YWCA CEO. “As seniors, our client population is so vulnerable to this virus, we are committed to minimizing their risk as much as possible.”

For people who are not current YWCA participants and may need meal support during this time, please call (623) 931-7436 to discuss eligibility for our program or for referral to additional programs.

To address the increase demand of seniors requesting home delivered meals, beginning Monday, March 20th YWCA will be delivering a week’s worth of meals to the current participants. As new participants are enrolled in the program, they will receive enough meals to last the week and get them through to the next Monday.

“Our team has prepped and are ready to deliver over 2,000 meals on Monday. The lengths that they have gone to make sure our most vulnerable seniors continue to receive healthy meals blows me away!” said Kathy Saunders, Valley West Senior Center Director.

The YWCA Senior Center is also distributing hygiene kits and preparing virtual activities including a daily party line conference call and new Facebook content to combat social isolation.

All updated information will be available on our website, www.ywcaaz.org.

About YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix:

Since 1912, YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix has been on a mission to eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. We imagine an equitable and inclusive Phoenix for everyone. We focus on how race and gender impact the issues that impact Phoenix and we create safe spaces for difficult conversations. Additionally, we provide direct services to seniors and low-income women and their families through our home-delivered meals, senior center, and financial literacy programs. YWCA Metropolitan Phoenix is part of an international movement serving over 2 million in the United States and 25 million worldwide.

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