



Dear PJCC Member & Program Family,

It is hard to imagine that as recently as March 15 – the day before the shelter-in-place order made the Center's temporary closure mandatory – we had the luxury of taking so many aspects of "normal" life for granted. A quick trip to the grocery store, holding a door open for another, sharing a kickboxing class with fellow members at the PJCC. In a few short weeks, so much has changed for each of us, our communities, and our world. Now the shelter-in-place order has been extended through at least May 3, and we are adjusting to a new reality along with the challenges and opportunities it presents.

This suspension of in-person activities puts the financial position of the PJCC into grave jeopardy. Almost 90% of our budget comes from income generated by our programs like Fitness, Early Childhood Education, and Aquatics. This amounts to a staggering loss of about \$1.4 million dollars a month in revenue for our beloved non-profit organization.

In thinking about these challenges and how to move forward, the PJCC senior management team and its Board of Directors have kept the following priorities in mind:

- The long-term viability of the PJCC so we may serve the community for many more years to come.
- Staying connected to and supporting our PJCC Community during this crisis with our [Virtual JCC](#) and through online connections with our teachers and educators.
- Treating our staff with dignity and respect and providing them with resources for continued benefits where possible, access to emotional support, and guidance to the greatly expanded government assistance resources.
- Remembering to embody our organization's values / guiding principles
- Preparing to reopen again as soon as possible and appropriate.

We have had to make some very difficult decisions. It is with heartfelt sadness therefore, that we announce a temporary but indefinite reduction in staffing to reduce our expenses. Effective March 31, approximately 80% of our almost 375 dedicated PJCC staff team will be furloughed. The PJCC staff is like a

family and we are committed to supporting our employees as much as possible. Despite the closure, all employees were paid in full in March and we will continue health insurance coverage for benefitted staff for April and for as long as feasible. Fortunately, furloughed staff are eligible for the greatly enhanced unemployment benefits during this crisis. And it is our intention to welcome them back to work at the PJCC as soon as feasible. A portion of our staff will continue working, many at significantly reduced hours, in order to maintain the PJCC's readiness to reopen and to maintain a connection to the audiences we serve.

For the month of April 1, you will not be charged any membership dues or tuition by the PJCC, unless you have already graciously told us to do so. To freeze your membership, you do not need to do anything.

But we do need your support now! If you want to support staff, including employees on furlough whose health care we are covering, you can click on the links below:

- [Choose to keep your membership active as a tax-deductible donation](#)
- [Make a donation of any denomination](#)

If you have contributed already – hundreds of you already have – you have my deepest gratitude!

Now more than ever, the PJCC community needs your help. I know you care about the people who are the PJCC – from Bob and Karen in security and all the people that serve at the welcome center, to our fitness trainers, group exercise instructors, and swim instructors. Our teachers in Preschool and Treehouse at the J are beloved by the families they serve. Our Cultural Arts and Adult programming, along with Jewish Life programs led by Rabbi Lavey and Jeni, are the Center's soul.

We will keep serving you! [Virtual PJCC](#) programming will continue with daily online fitness classes, weekly Jewish and Youth and Family offerings. We will host our very first Community Seder via Zoom on Thursday, April at 9 at 5:00 pm. Our Begeed Kefet Hebrew classes and select adult programming will continue online. Our Get Up and Go elder care transportation continues to drive our beloved seniors to their critical medical appointments and to help them obtain groceries or meals. Additionally, we are in touch with our senior members at least once a week to ensure they are safe, well, and not feeling frightened or depressed in isolation. To maintain online connections, we will retain a teacher for each of our wonderful preschool and Treehouse classrooms. And we're looking for more opportunities to be there for our

community should resources become available.

The PJCC has served the Peninsula for 70 years with heart and gusto. We know you rely on us and we are still doing all we can to be there for you! When this latest crisis recedes, as it surely will, we will be ready to spring back into action, gathering people together of all ages and backgrounds in a joyful renewal. Until then, please generously support our continued community service and we'll see you online!

Respectfully,

Paul Geduldig
Chief Executive Officer