

Hello JCC Camps at Medford Families!

We hope that this email finds you and your families safe and healthy. Although we would much rather send you a fun email with a goofy picture of us gearing up for camp, given the delicate nature of the ongoing pandemic, we felt it was important to provide you with an update regarding the upcoming camp season.

We know how hard everyone is praying for camp this summer. With that said, the situation with COVID-19 remains fluid. **The one thing that we know is that the health and safety of our campers and staff is our number one priority.** It is hard to imagine a scenario where camp is not impacted. While some things are out of our control, we are working on numerous contingency plans. As of now, we are planning as if camp will open on June 29, although there may be a possibility that we have an abbreviated season.

Over the past few weeks, we have been fortunate to participate in calls with the Center for Disease Control and Association of Camp Nurses through JCC Association and the American Camping Association. We are also closely following the Department of Health and NJ State recommendations. Both the ACA and the CDC are working together to create guidelines and recommendations for camps this summer. It should go without saying, however **we will only open camp if permitted through local and state government and if guidelines state that it is safe for our campers and staff.**

Although almost everything remains fluid, we are positive that there will be changes in policies and procedures. At this time, we don't know what will be required, but we do know we will comply for the health and safety of our campers and staff. As we move closer to the start of camp, and once we have a clearer picture of recommendations from these organizations, we will provide you with the updated policies. For now, here are a few things we are reviewing/implementing:

- The addition of portable handwashing stations to be placed around camp and mandatory hand washing before and after each activity.
- Staggering lunch periods to have less people in the dining hall at one time.
- Implementing new cleaning and sanitizing procedures.
- Coordinating with our Health Center Director on new policies and procedures.

Below is a list of the most common questions we are receiving along with our answers. Please know that we sincerely appreciate everyone's patience while we navigate the fluid situation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I extend my camp payments or freeze them until we know camp is happening?

Yes. If you need to extend your payment plan, you will be able to do so through August 2020. Additionally, we are allowing camp families to freeze payments until a determination is made on the camp start date. To do this, please email Tammi McCormick, JCC Accounting Department, at tmccormick@jfedsnj.org.

What happens if the camp season is shortened and I have already paid for more weeks than camp is able to open?

We will provide a credit to your account for Summer 2021 OR you can choose to receive a refund. Credits and refunds will be prorated based on the number of weeks camp is open. If you choose to receive a credit, then you will be locked in to the 2019 camp rates for Summer 2021, an approximate savings of 8%. We are offering the 2019 camp rates as a thank you for leaving your money with the JCC until our next camp season.

What if camp is not able to run at all this summer?

You will be able to choose between receiving a credit for Summer 2021 or a full refund. If you choose to receive a credit, then you will be locked in 2019 camp rates for Summer 2021, an approximate savings of 8%. We are offering the 2019 camp rates as a thank you for leaving your money with the JCC until our next camp season.

What if camp can open, but I do not feel comfortable sending my child?

We hope you understand that we will not open camp unless we are told it is safe for our campers and staff. We also understand that every parent needs to make the decision that feels right for their family. Your **deposit** will be credited to your account for Summer 2021. You can choose for any other payments already made to be a credit for Summer 2021 or be refunded.

What if this is my LIT summer and camp cannot open?

You will receive a refund of any tuition paid or can choose to put a credit on your JCC account toward membership or programming. Your teen will receive an email in the fall with information about how to apply for Summer 2021 employment.

What if my child is supposed to travel with Chaverim or Tiyulim this summer?

We are still working on making decisions regarding travel. All Chaverim and Tiyulim families will be contacted as soon as a decision is made. You will then have the choice for your child to switch to the Camp Aaron or Gesher programs with an adjustment in tuition.

When will I receive my requested refund?

We will do our best to process refunds as quickly as possible, however, we will send out refunds as soon as cash flow allows. Because we are part of a larger agency, and we start planning camp in the fall, we have numerous expenses that occur all year. Refunds may be processed in incremental payments.

Donations to Camp?

This pandemic has hit the JCC Camps at Medford hard, like many other non-profit organizations and businesses. If you decide to cancel your child's registration for camp this summer and are interested, the payments already paid can be donated to JCC Camps at Medford as a tax-deductible contribution.

What else should I be doing right now?

Continue to fill out your camp forms to the best of your ability. We know that many pediatrician offices are not currently accepting requests for summer forms, so we understand if medication and immunization forms are not yet able to be completed. Please try to fill everything else out!

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to us at any time. Also, **STAY CONNECTED!** We are regularly posting fun content on our Facebook page and emailing activities to camp families. Additionally, join us for our virtual events such as Zoom Trivia or Bingo Nights!

We are all praying to be together in our summer home soon! Stay healthy and safe!

From home isolation,

Your Camp Team

Beth Segal, Sara Sideman, Jared Kaufman

Your Camp Executive Committee Team

Evan Zweben, Deborah W. Frey, Ellen Lowenberger