Dear Families,

We hope this letter finds you well during this challenging time. Governor Baker officially announced this week to begin Phase 2, and we are hopeful we can create a camp-like experience this summer for the kids under the current restrictions, as well as help many of you return to work with safe and reliable childcare. With the new State of Massachusetts restrictions due to COVID, camp will look different this year, and so instead of Camp Terra Mare, we are referring to camp summer 2020 as Camp Kindness, as we want the message of kindness to be at the core of what we do this summer after many of us have experienced hardship during this lockdown. As said by Kevin Heath “wherever there is a human in need, there is an opportunity for kindness and to make a difference”.

We are working hard to master the new restrictions and regulations with staff and camper safety at the forefront of our hearts. We are in close contact with the Town of Oak Bluffs Board of Health to be in compliance and get licensed for camp. Under the new guidelines, unfortunately there will be no offsite field trips and camp groups will be limited to 10 kids with 1-2 counselors, and camp groups will not mix throughout the day or week at any time. Our overall camper enrollment will be smaller due to space restrictions and will be dependent on staff availability. Camp space will be limited and we may not be able to guarantee attendance for all campers. We will provide additional more detailed information as to how camp will safely be run this year in the coming weeks.

Due to this new process, we will not be starting camp the week of June 29. We hope to have a 6 week camp up and running by mid-July, pending Board of Health approval and if there is not any additional spikes in cases on Martha’s Vineyard. Priority camp registration will be given to current members of the After-School Program followed by those already registered and past camp participants. If you are currently enrolled in camp and no longer need care this summer please contact our camp registrar, Lindsay Webster lwebster@ymcamv.org to process your unenrollment.

We would like to note that all or part of our planning aspects are subject to change in accordance with what is best for public health as well as local Board of Health input and approval.

Be Well,
Tara

- Kevin Heath