



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brad Russell, Executive Director
Rogue Valley Family YMCA
522 West 6th Street, Medford, OR 97501
541-772-6295 x121; brussell@rvymca.org

SAFETY, LEARNING, AND ENRICHMENT FOUND AT KID TIME AND THE YMCA AS SCHOOL BEGINS

[Medford, Oregon 8-20-2020] – While the new school year may look different than before, one thing remains the same: child care provided by the YMCA and Kid Time continues to be a place where children can remain active, learning, and engaged during their time out of school – a critical time for all preschool-age and school-age children, especially as they continue to adjust to the many changes related to COVID-19. Each year, Kid Time and the YMCA partner to provide engaging activities in a caring and safe environment, and this year will be no different.

“The YMCA has served the Jackson County community for more than 75 years, during which we have made it through many challenging times together, none perhaps as impactful as COVID-19,” said Brad Russell, YMCA Executive Director. “As organizations dedicated to youth development, we know how important it is that our children have a safe and enriching environment for learning, both in and out of school. We are pleased to be able to provide these programs to the children in our community, allowing their invaluable social, emotional, physical and academic growth to continue regardless of the challenges ahead” added Sunny Spicer, Kid Time Executive Director.

Emergency Child Care launched on March 16 and has provided care for over 500 families and awarded over \$238,000 in financial assistance scholarships. Through a balanced approach to youth development, the program offers activities, mentorship, and academic support, nurturing the potential of all participants throughout the school year.

Because the local school districts are not returning right away in person, the child care schedule will support families when their children are learning virtually and parents are working. In order to help keep kids and staff healthy and safe throughout the school year, the program follows CDC, state, and local requirements and guidelines, and has adapted several changes to its day-to-day operations, including:

- Mask requirements for staff and children
- Daily health screenings with temperature checks for all children and staff
- Small group size and lots of time outdoors

For more information, contact:

- Brad Russell, YMCA Executive Director, at 541-772-6295 x121 or brussell@rvymca.org.
- Sunny Spicer, Kid Time Executive Director, at 541-772-9922 or sunny@kid-time.org.

#