

Dear Brenner Family Early Childhood Center Families,

We are deeply proud and appreciative you select our JCC to nurture, teach, and guide your child(ren). You are an integral part of our ELC family.

During this challenging and unpredictable time, the health, safety and well-being of our extended family remains our highest priority. And, we are particularly mindful of our youngest members.

Early Monday, we made the difficult decision to close the entire JCC facility as part of our efforts to contribute towards slowing the spread of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus). With heavy hearts, we recognize the added challenge this presents to our ELC families. For additional details on why it is important to close our doors at this time, please review the [CDC's latest guidance](#) that people throughout the United States avoid gatherings of 50 people or more.

As we were sending notification to you and the community about the closure of all JCC operations, we learned that Governor Wolf was also issuing [statewide mitigation efforts](#), which would also have required us to close.

Please know that we are grateful for your investment in the JCC and do not take it for granted. We feel similarly about our incredible teachers and other staff who are the lifeblood of the JCC. With regard to your ELC tuition, we can offer the following solutions:

- **Donation:** We would be happy to provide you with a letter for tax-deduction purposes for tuition already paid for March 17-31. Dues, tuition or fees for which no services are rendered can be considered a tax-deductible donation. Your donation will allow us to offset expenses incurred in supporting our staff at this challenging time. *Please contact Jenn Ross at [j.ross@jewishfedhbg.org](mailto:j.ross@jewishfedhbg.org) to request a donation letter if this is your intent.*
- **Credit:** If donation is not financially feasible or not what you wish to do, we will provide a credit toward future tuition for the pro-rated unused amount paid for March 17-31.

In addition, we plan to remove automated payments for tuition for the month of April. If it is deemed safe and permitted, we will re-open on April 1. At this time, however, given the information we have, it appears the closure will be extended. We will adjust ELC automated payment schedules as more information becomes available. We are carefully monitoring this situation and will continue to keep you apprised of what we expect to do in the weeks ahead.

The uncertainty that we are facing is universally challenging. Our team is continuing to look for ways we can provide connection and support to all members, with particular focus on our ELC families. Please be in touch with us providing your ideas and suggestions as our teachers and staff seek ways to leverage our virtual tools to help ease your situation.

Our JCC community exists to serve you and your families. We take very seriously that our J is a second home to hundreds of families. And with that in mind, we want to thank you for your continued support.

When our doors reopen, we will pick up right where we left off: providing best-in-class services to our membership of all ages. As a non-profit organization, our ability to continue programs, retain our amazing staff and plan for the future is 100 percent dependent upon our community staying by our side, just as we are here for you.

Please be in touch with us to discuss any concerns, questions or suggestions.

With Gratitude and Hope,

Chana Tillman, ELC Director

Lori Rubin, Associate Executive Director

Jenn Ross, President & CEO