



May 21, 2020

Dear CBE Camp Families,

It breaks all of our hearts to let you know that we have made the difficult decision to cancel all in-person camp programs for summer 2020. We were truly hoping that we wouldn't have to write this letter. We are crushed by the thought of not seeing campers playing in our gyms, swimming in our pool, boarding buses wearing matching CBE shirts for fun excursions, or singing "This Land Is Your Land" on opening day.

While state and city officials have not yet definitively laid out a plan for day camps, we feel strongly that canceling camp now is the right thing to do. Our overriding concern is safety, and there are too many unknown risks for us to create an acceptable pathway forward for this summer.

To make this decision, we took into account information from various agencies, comparable programs, as well as the CBE COVID Council. This is a newly established group of members from across our community including education, public health and major non-profit leaders. They brought their expertise to help us interpret the information available and consider every possible scenario. In the end, the only option we all felt comfortable with was cancelling our in-person camp programs.

Camp is a magical place that provides meaningful experiences for the kids and staff, and for us not to have that this summer is deeply disappointing. We understand how hard it is to break this kind of news to your children and want to support you through that process. Our CBE community is still here! We will be in touch with you in the coming weeks and throughout the summer to stay connected.

For any camp payments that have already been made, there are several options: You can make a donation to the CBE Emergency Stabilization Fund; choose to apply any payments as a credit toward future CBE programs; or you can choose a full refund, as promised. Please [click here](#) to let us know how to handle your payment.

The CBE community is incredibly strong, and we will make it through this difficult time together. We will miss seeing all of you in person this summer, and dream of the day when we can all be back together.

Wishing everybody health and strength,

Alan Herman, Executive Director and COO
Jacqueline Israel, Director of Early Childhood Center
Bobbie Finkelstein, Director of Youth Programs
Rebecca Epstein, Associate Rabbi Educator

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