



May 22, 2022

YMCA SERVES THE ESCONDIDO COMMUNITY

The YMCA of San Diego County is committed to serving the Escondido Community. We're dedicated to serving the health, wellbeing and development of youth from elementary school into young adulthood.

The COVID 19 pandemic was devastating in its effect on our Y, much like it was to businesses, governments and other non-profits. The Y's financial challenges in Escondido began a decade before COVID and were only exacerbated by the mandated COVID closures. The YMCA of San Diego County supported the Palomar Y/Escondido programs and community by approximately \$7M over the ten years prior to the pandemic. The post-COVID financial realities do not allow us to continue operating as we were at the Palomar Y where the losses were close to \$1M per year.

Even though the Palomar Y closed to traditional membership, it has continued to serve the Escondido community since June 2020 in a variety of ways including:

- Providing gymnastics in the Stensrud Building on the Palomar Y campus with over 400 youth each week.
- Lincoln Elementary School students in the Expanded Learning program using the Y for weekly physical education.
- Holding gymnastics camp all summer at the Palomar Y.

The Y has always existed to serve the community through outreach. In Escondido...

- TAY Academy provides a lifeline for transition aged youth such as food, water, sanitation, hygiene kits, emergency housing, resource navigation and mental health services, all with the emphasis on employment, education and a path to safe housing. This free service is provided in the Stensrud Building at the Palomar Y for Escondido youth.
- Our Lincoln Apartments in Escondido empower older youth (ages 16-26), children and pets with safe housing, case management, development of independent living skills, financial education and supportive services. Through our partnership with the Escondido City's zoning department, a playground is coming soon.
- Our Expanded Learning Program (ELP) in partnership with Escondido Union School District, operates both during the school year and summer at multiple school sites in Escondido for additional academic opportunities.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to providing services and programming in the Escondido community and look forward to working with you and area families to determine how to best partner going forward. Please feel free to contact me personally to learn and discuss more about the Y.

Todd Tibbits
President and CEO, YMCA of San Diego County
Email ttibbits@ymcasd.org