



To our World Federation of Youth Clubs Affiliates:

This is an extraordinary time in our lives as the coronavirus becomes the center of most every conversation and a serious concern to all our families, friends and, of course, our youth. Most of us have never experienced a challenge as far-reaching as the global spread of the coronavirus (or COVID-19). ***We must all embrace behavioral changes as our first priority that will stem the spread of the coronavirus.*** Based on the information from the [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019), the virus will continue to pose a challenge for the upcoming weeks and perhaps even months.

During this difficult time, we want you to know that we are thinking of you, your family, your organization and all of those you serve. We want to share our knowledge and resources to help you make fact-based decisions to protect yourselves and those entrusted to your care.

We strongly recommend that you pay close attention to the information and guidelines that you are receiving to help you make educated decisions based on the advice, protocols and instructions from your local governments, health organizations, schools – especially that impact the youth of your communities. Pay close attention to the health alerts from the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>. Armed with this sound information, you must make the decision on whether you will keep your Clubs open, always erring on the side of caution.

Additionally, no travel for youth, staff or volunteers involved with your organization should be authorized. If any of your employees or volunteers have traveled to high-risk areas, or are planning to, they should report it. As we receive further information regarding future travel, we will share it.

In the meantime, here are some simple basic recommendations about COVID-19 that we all should diligently practice immediately:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects touched surfaces.

Our goal is that you keep the youth, staff and volunteers safe as we work together to fulfill our purpose to develop and strengthen your organizations that provide safe and nurturing spaces for young people. We are thinking every day of your health and peace of mind. Feel free to share any promising practices that may be helpful to your colleagues and counterparts in other areas of the world.

We are ALL in this together.

Rick Goings, Chairman  
Glenn Permuy, President