

Dear Church Challenge Participant,

As health and wellness organizations that care deeply about the health of our communities, the American Heart Association and WW have been closely following the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as your state and local health officials, about the coronavirus COVID-19.

Out of great concern for your health and safety and out of an abundance of caution, we have decided that the best course is to temporarily postpone our EmPOWERED and Well Healthier Church Challenge for the next two weeks. During this time, we will be working to provide other options – including virtual programming and more digital resources – for you and your participants. We believe digital solutions will provide your churches another option. We know times of crisis can be stressful and difficult, and so we want to provide our participants with solutions – and comfort – with practical steps they can take to live healthier lives and not worry.

For now, what we want you to know:

- Your health comes first, and we want to continue to provide wellness solutions for you during this time.
- Churches and participants will NOT be penalized for these extenuating circumstances for the Healthier Church Challenge.
- Once we resume the program, you will pick up where you left off toward completing the Healthier Church Challenge requirements to receive the 2<sup>nd</sup> stipend and qualify for the top two prizes.
- For those churches that have active WW Workshops on-site, please review the separate communication from WW's leadership team about their transition to virtual workshops and next steps.
- As a science-based organization that is sensitive to current events, the American Heart Association encourages you to keep informed of the latest updates from the [CDC](#) and your local and state health department leaders.
- Consult your health care provider directly if you have any questions about your own health.

Now, more than ever, it's important we build on the program's momentum to keep people moving and inspire healthy living.

We thank you for your incredible commitment to this program and for joining us in being a relentless force for longer, healthier lives.

Sincerely,



Pamela Garmon Johnson  
VP Health Equity & National Partnerships  
American Heart Association



Sherry Thompson  
SVP Community Engagement & Activation  
WW

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