May 20, 2020

Dear College Settlement Families,

The College Settlement Staff hopes that this message finds you and your family well. It goes without saying that we are living through an unprecedented and concerning time.

The pandemic situation is constantly evolving and information changes daily. We have been closely following our local and state health department officials to make informed decisions as efficiently as possible that prioritize the health and safety of our staff, campers and communities. Our Board has decided that due to the continued quarantine order until June 4th, and the requirement for masking and social distancing, that we are unable to run our traditional day and overnight camp.

Your child’s safety and the safety of all our members, volunteers, and employees is our top priority. After evaluating the guidelines, we have concluded that based on the information available to us of likely restrictions, we will NOT be able to hold Day Camp or Overnight Camp at College Settlement.

Since we are unable to offer these programs, we will be launching a Camp Channel which will be a free on-line program that will allow campers and families to watch various videos, at their leisure, that would include camp songs, guest appearances from international staff, various environmental lessons as well as arts and crafts. On Fridays we will offer an interactive program that will allow campers to connect virtually. Additionally, we are holding a Virtual Counselor in Training (CIT) Program which will feature interactive programming as well as educational opportunities. We will roll-out these program options in the next few weeks and will send additional information for getting involved.

We are also looking into some other options for small family groups to participate in our programs. Hopefully by July, we can offer these programs to our camper families. Please stay tuned to our social media and website for these updates.

We understand these decisions will have a significant impact on our campers and their families. All families will be issued refunds for the fees they have paid. We hope that campers will participate in the Camp Channel and we are looking forward to the day when we can all gather again at College Settlement.

Sincerely,

Terry Dougherty
Executive Director