

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT® FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

December 13, 2017

City of Appleton Common Council c/o Kami L. Lynch, City Clerk

Dear City of Appleton Common Council,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of the YMCA of the Fox Cities, I applaud you for your consideration of the "Health in All Policies" ordinance for the City of Appleton.

For the past 130 years the Appleton YMCA has worked to strengthen the foundation of our community through our focus on total wellness. In addition, the last two words of our mission are "for all," as we serve people from all walks of life and at all stages of life.

This proposed ordinance will help us take the next step, together, to ensure a healthy and vibrant community.

Social determinants, such as education, poverty, mental health – including adverse childhood experiences, and the physical environment play a major role as to why some groups in our community have poorer health outcomes as compared to others. We must continue to work to ensure health equity throughout our community.

I pledge to you that the YMCA of the Fox Cities will join you as we continue to work to improve the lives of all residents.

I believe that passing this ordinance will send a clear message to partner stakeholders that our input and experience is valued in the decision making process in order to develop and implement collaborative solutions. I also believe that the "Health in All Policies" ordinance creates the framework to address health disparities at the policy, systems and structural levels, which will ultimately lead to better health outcomes.

Thank you once again for your consideration of this important matter. Together, we will build a healthier, stronger foundation and community.

Sincerely,

William R. Breider III President / CEO

YMCA of the Fox Cities

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