

## To Our Dearest Camp Shoshanim Families, Friends, and Staff,

With the heaviest of hearts and tears in our eyes, we share with you that Camp Shoshanim will not be opening this summer as planned. Instead, 2021 will mark Camp Shoshanim's bat mitzvah year along with the 100<sup>th</sup> summer of NJY Camps.

Since March, we have been cautiously optimistic about opening camp, making contingency plans, and hoping for a clear path to emerge for us to open in a safe manner. We have spent many hours combing through guidelines, speaking with medical professionals and meeting with our colleagues to redesign our program to keep our camp community safe from COVID-19.

As we look at photos and videos from past years, we know that so many of our best camp memories come from time spent arm-in-arm.

Given the overwhelming unknowns, including the newly-identified Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children, uncertainties of our state's regulations, financial expense of testing, facilities adaptation and hiring additional medical personnel, in consultation with our board of directors, it has become clear that we cannot open camp and provide campers with the amazing experience that you have come to expect from us.

We have wished for nothing more than to be in camp this summer — to see you- our staff, our families, and most of all our campers. But we know that we will have to wait for next year to be together in person.

You likely have many questions, and in time, we will be connecting with each family individually. In the next few days, we will provide you with more detail, as well as your options for a refund or for rolling over your tuition to 2021. We ask that you wait until receiving this next email before deciding how you want to proceed.

We thank you, our campers, staff, alumni and partners for all of your support during this difficult time.

We wish you good health, safety and better times ahead as we look forward to being with you in Summer 2021 to celebrate our bat mitzvah year and the 100<sup>th</sup> summer of NJY Camps.

*Stephen P. Seiden*  
Board President

*Janet Warm Fliegelman*  
Interim Executive Director

*Esther Staum Katz*  
Director, Camp Shoshanim