



April 17, 2017

To all Yoga Group Students, Teachers, and Supporters:

THE
YOGA
GROUP®

The Yoga Group has been providing free yoga classes for people living with HIV/AIDS since 1988, and for people living with cancer since 2012. We became a Colorado non-profit corporation in 1992 and an approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization in 1993. We know that we have made a positive difference in the lives of many, and we have helped spread the word about the benefits of yoga for people facing life-challenging conditions through our web site, conferences, and other activities.

This is to let you know that after nearly thirty years of service to the community, The Yoga Group will cease operations as of June 30, 2017, which means that the cancer class at IYCD will be discontinued and The Yoga Group will no longer pay class fees for HIV/AIDS students. Students are encouraged to try restorative yoga classes of their choice on a paying basis (IYCD has an economic hardship program of reduced fees for those who may need help paying for classes). This action is not taken lightly, but the Board of The Yoga Group has decided that the time has come to close this chapter of all of our lives.

The Yoga Group has always been a very small, local, grass-roots non-profit, with an annual budget of less than \$10,000. We are proud of keeping overhead low, with no office rental or paid administrative staff. Nearly all of the funds we have raised have gone to pay for yoga teachers, studio rental, and yoga props for our students.

In recent years, we have been faced with declining funds, declining participation in our HIV/AIDS classes, and, frankly, declining energy on the part of those who have volunteered their time to run The Yoga Group. We believe that The Yoga Group has largely accomplished its mission over these many years, and that mission now comes to an end.

We want to express our deep and sincere gratitude for B.K.S. Iyengar, whose teachings we have tried to faithfully pass on to our students; for all who have supported The Yoga Group, including everyone who joined our team in AIDS Walk Colorado for over twenty consecutive years; for all of our teachers who have dedicated their experience and wisdom to helping our students; and especially for all of our students, from whom we have learned so much about life, love, strength, healing, and compassion. Thank you.

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Namasté,

The Board of Directors of The Yoga Group