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February 17, 2022

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YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Drowning Prevention Program Receives 2022 Grant Funding from USA Swimming Foundation

Grant supports efforts to offer free or reduced-cost swim lessons

Boca Raton, Florida – The YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Drowning Prevention Program was chosen by the USA Swimming Foundation to receive grant money in early 2022. The grant award will go toward the Y's continued efforts to provide free or reduced-cost swim lessons. The USA Swimming Foundation has awarded a total of \$898,184 to programs across the country.

"We are overjoyed with the opportunity to provide life-saving swim lessons to adults in our community that otherwise would not have the funds for lessons," states Libby Moon, Drowning Prevention Coordinator for the YMCA of South Palm Beach County. "These adults will learn to be safe around the water and therefore be able to enjoy more water-related activities with their families."

Since 2014, the Y's Drowning Prevention Program has been teaching swim lessons to nearly 1,000 low-income youth each year. Over the last year, the Y has helped provide swim lessons to more than 150 adults.

The USA Swimming Foundation vetted more than 250 applications through a competitive annual review process and chose 102 youth and 40 adult programs to receive funding.

"It's an incredible feeling to know that USA Swimming Foundation funding will be used to create a valuable swimming experience for thousands of people who may not have had the opportunity to learn how to swim," Scott Usher, Director of Development for the USA Swimming Foundation said. "We are thrilled with the depth of this year's swim lesson provider applicant pool, and we couldn't be prouder to support these life-saving opportunities across the country. We owe a tremendous thank you to our partners and donors who continue to make a difference in our mission of *saving lives and building champions*."

Millions of children have received the lifesaving gift of swim lessons through the USA Swimming Foundation's network of swim lesson providers, comprised of more than 1,500 qualified lesson providers across the nation. To learn more, visit www.usaswimming.org/foundation.

For a full list of 2022 USA Swimming Foundation grant recipients or to donate to the Foundation, please visit www.usaswimming.org/foundation.

For more information on Drowning Prevention Program visit www.ymcaspbc.org or contact Libby Moon, Lmoon@ymcaspbc.org, 561-237-0950.

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About the YMCA

Driven by its founding mission, the YMCA has served as a leading nonprofit organization committed to strengthening community for more than 175 years. The Y empowers everyone, no matter who they are or where they are from, by ensuring access to resources, relationships and opportunities for all to learn, grow and thrive. The YMCA of South Palm Beach County serves as a community anchor in Palm Beach County by enriching lives and strengthening community through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. The YMCA of South Palm Beach County is comprised of The Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton, The DeVos-Blum Family YMCA of Boynton Beach, THE LAB: YMCA Leadership Academy, and the YMCA@901 NCCI. For more information, please visit YMCASPBC.org.