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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tracy Sussman Director of Marketing YMCA of South Palm Beach County 561-237-0974 tsussman@ymcaspbc.org

## YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Safety Around the Water Program Receives 2024 Grant Funding from USA Swimming Foundation

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

South Palm Beach County, FL (4/15/24) – YMCA of South Palm Beach County's Safety Around the Water Program was chosen as one of 124 youth programs from the USA Swimming Foundation's nationwide network of swim lesson providers to receive grant money in 2024. The grant award will go toward the Safety Around the Water Program's continued efforts to provide free or reduced-cost swim lessons. This year, the USA Swimming Foundation has awarded a total of \$780,000 in its initial round of funding to programs across the country.

"I am thrilled we have the opportunity to serve 82 youth with life-saving swim lessons in Palm Beach County," states Associate Director of Water Safety, Libby Moon. "Thank you to USA Swimming for helping make swim lessons a possibility to those with the greatest need in our community."

The YMCA's Safety Around Water program is offered year-round to qualified groups at no cost. Based on a foundation of "Safety First, Swim Second", this program is geared for ages 3-17 and is offered at our YMCA branches or in pre-approved sites throughout Palm Beach County.

The USA Swimming Foundation vetted more than 400 applications through a competitive annual review process and chose 124 youth and 38 adult programs to receive funding.

"The USA Swimming Foundation is proud to continue providing Learn-to-Swim opportunities at the local level for both adults and youth," said USA Swimming Foundation Executive Director Elaine Calip. "With the excitement surrounding U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Swimming and the Olympic Games, we anticipate an increased interest in our sport. We are thrilled to continue our partnership with lesson providers nationwide to keep kids and adults safe in and around the water."

Millions of individuals 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 <u>www.usaswimming.org/foundation</u>.

Click <u>here</u> for a full list of 2024 USA Swimming Foundation grant recipients. Click <u>here</u> to donate to the Foundation.

For more information on the YMCA's Safety Around the Water program, visit <u>https://www.ymcaspbc.org/watersafetymonth</u>

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 YMCA@901 NCCI. For more information, please visit YMCASPBC.org