

MAKE A BIG SPLASH WITH WATER SAFETY



Imagine being a child who is growing up in a home where no one was taught to swim or the cost of lessons was deemed unaffordable? With a child's wonderment, you see all the beautiful lakes, rivers and streams our beautiful state has to offer - yet you are afraid to enter the water because you don't know how to swim.

Many are surprised to hear that drowning is the second (only to car crashes) leading cause of death and injury among children ages 1 to 14 years old in Minnesota. According to the USA Swimming Foundation, 79% of children in homes with incomes less than \$50,000 have little-to-no swimming ability.

The St. Cloud Area Family YMCA needs your help to fund a series of "Safety Around Water" classes for second grade students in St. Cloud Area District 742. We had intended to launch this program in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has made it necessary to back up our plans to Fall 2021. With support from you and other donors, we are planning to launch the program with THREE St. Cloud schools instead of one.

In these classes, children will learn fundamental water safety skills including finding safe places to swim, swimming on their fronts and rolling on their backs to rest.

Your contribution to our Annual Campaign will help us raise \$30,000 for 300 students. A \$100 contribution will cover the class costs for one student. You CAN make a difference!



Swimming is a wonderful sport and a great recreational and exercise option that can be carried into adulthood. We want to ensure our community's youth gets a great start on water safety and introduction to all the fun swimming can be.

To donate, go to scymca.org or contact Diane Hageman

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