

There are many tragedies involving young children that we cannot avoid. Drowning should not be one of them.

In most instances involving drowning or near drowning of children, the tragedy could have been avoided with layers of protection. Educating parents about how to keep their children safe and teaching children the skills they need to save themselves if they find themselves in the water alone are critical to minimizing the loss of children to drowning. If we can save the life of one child, we consider that a success.

We at Swim Safe Forever know that what is best for our children is not always possible within our budget. In an effort to provide more children in our community the gift of survival, Swim Safe Forever is pleased to provide partial scholarships for survival swim lessons based on financial need.



Parents cannot always be there. It takes only a momentary lapse in supervision for the life of a child to be changed.

Financial need is determined by family income in association with federal guidelines. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, please download the scholarship application found on our website at www.swimsafeforever.org.

Please note, in an effort to ensure that your child is receiving effective survival swim lessons, only instructors who have been established as approved service providers will be eligible for this scholarship program regardless of financial eligibility of the requesting family.

Swim Safe Forever is not a provider of swim lessons, we provide families with scholarships to afford quality survival swim lessons.

Testimonials

"I am very pleased with the survival skills that Lily learned while in the class. Lily finished the class and we practice regularly as instructed. I would like to thank you for the opportunity that my daughter was able to experience by receiving the scholarship that you so gratefully gave her, thank you so much it is a real gift to me to know that my daughter is safe and educated."

"We are so grateful for (this swim program). Teaching our son was no easy feat and we are thrilled that our instructor was able to overcome every obstacle he threw her way. The instructor was very patient, kind and assertive. Thank you for being willing to take him on again this year and for the life saving scholarship! It has been a huge blessing!"



Swim Safe Forever is proudly serving the children of Brevard County Florida.

Photos courtesy of Brook Mayo



Is your child between the ages of 6 months and 6 years?

If so, swim scholarships are available through Swim Safe Forever to qualifying families.

Drowning is the leading cause of accidental death in children under the age of four in the United States

(U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007).

Each year, thousands of children lose their lives to aquatic accidents and many more are hospitalized and go on to live a life with severe complications as a result of near drowning experiences. An estimated 5,000 children ages 14 and under are hospitalized due to unintentional drowning-related incidents each year; 15 percent die in the hospital and as many as 20 percent suffer severe, permanent neurological disability. (National Safety Council and Foundation for Aquatic Injury Prevention).



Layers of protection can help to decrease aquatic tragedies.

The Layers of Protection:

- **Constant Eyes On** adult supervision.
- **Self latching safety gates and safety fences.**
- **Removal of pool toys from the water when not in use.**
- **Removal of furniture that may be used to climb safety fences.**
- **Survival swimming skills.**
- **A phone on the pool deck to call 911.**
- **CPR Training.**

When those layers fail and children find their way to the water unsupervised, research shows that survival instruction is effective in providing children the skills necessary to save themselves in an aquatic emergency.

Every child must learn to roll onto their back and float fully clothed during lessons. Older children learn to swim in the direction of safety and roll onto their back and float.



Photo by Christen Buchert

Swim Safe Forever strives to educate our community regarding the layers of protection and effective measures of water safety. In addition to community education, Swim Safe Forever provides a scholarship program for survival-type swim lessons to families who qualify. Our organization is run by volunteers who are passionate about protecting the children of our community from avoidable tragedy.

To apply for a scholarship please visit:
www.swimsafeforever.org

