Nadar Por Vida

Affecting Lives One Bubble at a Time!

Request:

To continue our efforts in providing outreach to Latino and other minority, low-income and at-risk families we request consideration for continued funding from PVS. We request $5,000 or whatever could be deemed appropriate, for assistance in pool rental and general costs of equipment, suits, caps and other items required to run the program.

Although NPV started before PVS involvement, our organizations are integrally intertwined because all of the swimmers are USA members. Coach Lopez delivers speeches and presentations across the country and in each includes emphasis on the diversity efforts of PVS. A great example of this is the local news feature on Cox Communications before CNN Headline News. A 4 minute interview features Coach Lopez who specifically mentions the importance of the generosity of PVS. There are few programs within PVS attracting as much attention and good will to the PVS diversity efforts as NPV. This interview can be found on our web site www.nadarprovida.org and is seen in rotation for the past year on channel 70.

Background:

Nadar Por Vida (NPV) began several years ago as an outreach program of the Curl-Burke Swim Club. Beginning with 12 kids we quickly grew with the support of Potomac Valley Swimming (PVS) and the generosity of our swim community. NPV is quickly becoming recognized as the premier Latino outreach swim program of its kind in the country.

The items below include many of our accomplishments:

- Based on the previous PVS support, NPV, Inc. was established as a Virginia non-profit corporation. Originally beginning as an outreach program of the Curl-Burke Swim team we are now totally independent.

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- Coach Lopez continues to participate in the USA Swimming Conferences and raises the profile of the PVS diversity efforts in his numerous speeches and presentations.

- Through agreement our NPV swimmers become members of the CUBU swim team and Coach Lopez as a CUBU coach is permitted to provide uncompensated coaching. CUBU continues to provide a back-up facility and other benefits. PVS pays for each participant to join USA Swimming as an outreach member.

- NPV has recently been accepted as an affiliated non-profit under the United Way!

- NPV continues to be recognized as a Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) after-school Learning-21 program through Holmes Middle School. Swimmers come from as many as 40+ different FCPS schools. This year Poe Middle School will be added as a second base school sponsoring NPV as an official after-school program.

- A web page has been donated and maintained by Sumie Emory that has helped to spread our message across the nation. It includes our schedule, directions to the pools, articles about the program, bi-lingual applications and continues to grow and evolve. The web site will soon feature a specific section highlighting the diversity efforts of PVS.

- Coach Lopez continues to participate in his second term on the Diversity Committee for USA Swimming as the only Hispanic representative.

- NPV continues to provide support to in placing families various NVSL teams each summer.

- NPV continues to send swimmers to participate in the University of Virginia Summer Swim Clinics.

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- Practices continue to be held on Saturday nights between October and May at Providence Recreation Center where the entire pool is rented for our program.

- An average of approximately 50+ swimmers and families attend NPV each week.

- Each swimmer continues to be provided with top quality caps, suits, fins, net bags, and other related equipment.

- Kate Ziegler continues to provide support.

- NPV continues to receive national attention through articles and direct linking with the USA Swimming “Make a Splash!” effort. Our most recent interview was with Cox Communications and has been running continually for almost a year just before CNN headline news.

- Over 20+ volunteers participate each week including swimmers’ family members, USS Coaches, Police Officers, Fairfax County Parks and Recreation, Fairfax County School teachers and Counselors.

- NVSL and specific teams continue to provide support through funds, equipment, volunteers and recognition.

- High School and Middle School volunteers include members and former members of CUBU, Machines, York, Potomac Marlins, RMSC and Fish.

- NPV has begun an effort to disseminate used suits, caps, trophies and other used equipment to swim organizations around the country. This is one of the first efforts of its kind in the swim community. Equipment, including a used starting system, has been sent to Maine, where meets were being started with a whistle. An Atlanta USA Make-A-Splash organization received suits and over 100 caps donated from various PVS and NVSL teams.

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Conclusion:

On behalf of the Board of Nadar Por Vida, Inc., we wish to express our appreciation for all of the support PVS has provided to date. We believe our efforts would not have been successful without the great relationship we have developed with PVS. We believe our organizations can continue to work towards the goal of providing an opportunity for all children to participate in our sport. We further believe that we have continued to meet the goals and expectations PVS intended when first considering support of NPV. Our organization is in the best position to assist PVS in their effort to bring our sport to populations generally unfamiliar to the sport of swimming. Thank you for your consideration.

Arthur Andrew Lopez
President and Head Coach
On behalf of the Board of Directors of Nadar Por Vida, Inc.