

Nadar Por Vida

Affecting Lives One Bubble at a Time!

Nadar Por Vida began 4 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. The items below include many of our accomplishments:

- Based on the previous PVS grant, Nadar Por Vida, 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. Through agreement our swimmers become members of the CUBU swim team and Coach Lopez is permitted to provide uncompensated coaching. CUBU continues to provide facilities and other benefits.
- A web page was 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. In the future the web site will be capable of accepting donations.
- Coach Lopez participated in the USA Swimming Conference and raised the profile of the PVS diversity efforts in his advocating during the conference.
- Coach Lopez has been named to a second term on the Diversity Committee for USA Swimming as the only Hispanic representative.
- A presentation was made by Coach Lopez at the first USA Swimming Diversity Symposium at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs last fall. His presentation included featuring PVS for its outstanding support of Nadar Por Vida in our community effort to make swimming available to all.

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- Ten families were placed on various NVSL teams last year. This year the goal for family placement has increased.
- This summer two Nadar swimmers will be provided the opportunity to participate in the University of Virginia Summer Swim Clinics.
- Practices are now held on most Saturday nights at Providence Recreation Center where the entire pool is rented for our program.
- An average of over 50 swimmers, plus families, attend Nadar, most weeks.
- Each swimmer continues to be provided with top quality caps, suits, net bags, swim bags, and other equipment.
- Kate Ziegler once again provided support through her Speedo contract for our children to obtain additional equipment. My swimmers and families are very grateful to Kate and are preparing a special initiative to express our appreciation as she prepares for her Olympic quest.
- The independent film "Parting the Waters" which follows the Olympic dreams of Cullen Jones, Maritza Correa and other minority swimmers will include the efforts of Nadar Por Vida.
- A news story appeared on local NBC Channel 4 and continues to be rebroadcast regarding the Nadar Por Vida effort.
- Nadar Por Vida continues to receive national attention through articles and direct linking with the USA Swimming "Make a Splash!" effort. Our most recent interview was with New York Sporting News to be published in the near future.
- An average of 20 volunteers participate each week including swimmers' family members, USS Coaches, Police Officers,

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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.
- Nadar Por Vida continues to be recognized as a Fairfax County Public School after-school Learning -21 program through Holmes Middle School. Swimmers come from as many as 21 different schools.