

I have been spending the last month re-examining the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for Maine Swimming. We had zero attendance for the first meeting I scheduled, so adjustments needed to happen moving forward. I have also been looking into educational materials for MESI Clubs to create and/or expand their own Financial Aid and Scholarship Programs. I believe there is an excellent model for teams and clubs to look at in Buffalo, NY. Here are a few links that can give some insight.

City Swim Project – Moving The Needle Article

<https://www.usaswimming.org/news/2020/11/27/moving-the-needle>

USA Swimming Interview with Mike Switaski

<https://cityswimproject.org/bcsr-head-coach-mike-switaski-featured-on-usa-swimming/>

USA Swimming Interview with Mike Switaski Pt. 2

<https://cityswimproject.org/part-2-of-usa-swimming-one-on-one-with-mike-switalski/>

I am aiming to have Mike Switaski attend a DE&I Committee Meeting this summer, and I will be gauging interest from Club Presidents and Coaches if they would like to attend the meeting. It should be very informative, and provide materials/inspiration for teams to expand Scholarship Programs through grants and fundraising. Maine Swimming already recognizes the financial barrier in the sport, and with our smaller population it might actually be easier to work on removing these barriers compared to larger LSCs.