

September 9, 2022

Dear Susan and Montana Swimming Diversity Committee Members,

BMA is grateful for Montana Swimming's continued support that has allowed BMA to provide scholarships, registration fees, and meet fees to underfunded Outreach athletes and athletes of under-represented race/ethnicity (Latinx, Asian, Indigenous). Athletes receiving financial support have benefitted from the physical activity and emotional support from BMA and have enriched our team as well as Montana Swimming by increased swim diversity and inclusion.

Available pool time continues to be a limiting factor to our serving the underfunded and minority youth in the Bozeman area. In May 2022 structural deficiencies in the west wall of the Bozeman Swim Center were discovered and necessitated temporary closure of the building until repairs are completed. The swim community scrambled to obtain alternative pool space at other facilities, which unfortunately were inadequate to meet community needs. BMA athletes, coaches and board members are constructively moving forward with a growth mindset, making the best of space at Eagle Mount (temperatures are therapeutic and too warm for intense conditioning) and the limited pool time allocated by the city at Bogert Pool, the public outdoor facility. Consequently, we regret that we were not able to offer minority learn-to-swim camps this past summer. BMA is committed to hosting targeted Diversity Splash camps to more minority youth with instruction in Spanish and English as soon as sufficient pool space, volunteers, and coaching staff are available.

At the beginning of each short course or long course season, the BMA scholarship committee approves scholarships and earmarks scholarship funds to be applied monthly, as funding allows. This reduces stress to underfunded families and helps avoid athletes having to leave swimming mid-season due to financial need. As you can see from our report below, we overestimated the scholarship expenditures for Short Course (SC) 2021 due to 1) a shortened SC season by 1 month, 2) three athletes not being able to swim in a meet, and 3) lower than anticipated registration costs. Although we continue to reach out to youth of minority race and ethnicity within our community, we did not apply for more grant funds for the second half of 2022 because of existing funds to carry forward into SC 2022.

The success of our program to increase swim opportunities for underfunded and underrepresented athletes can be measured in many ways. Former BMA Minority Splash Camp volunteers and coaches have been inspired, making constructive contributions to underrepresented people and those in need of health care. Three former athlete/volunteers are working in their first or second years as nurses, one employed in the Cardiac/Intensive Care Unit at Cleveland Clinic, one of the top Cardiac facilities in the country. A former athlete/volunteer helped develop rapid tests to detect SARS-COV2 and was published as an undergrad for her scientific research in a genetics lab at MSU, and will be working at the National Institute of Health, Rocky Mountain Labs beginning this fall. One of our former coaches counseled indigenous youth and children, taught extreme cold-water safety and swim lessons to over 100 children, and helped bridge youth with village elders through activities in Kongiganak and St. Mary's, Alaska, which are indigenous communities accessible only by air or

boat. A former BMA athlete/Minority Splash Camp helper volunteered hundreds of hours over 4 years to tutor indigenous students at Montana State University. A former BMA athlete/Minority Splash camp volunteer started medical school this fall as part of the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho (WWAMI) program. We are grateful to Montana Swimming for generously providing resources which have helped us touch the lives of others in so many positive ways.

Respectfully,

BMA Scholarships/Grant Committee - Lisa Peterson Nabity (Board Alumna), Mary Kay Woodin, (Treasurer), Joni Knopik (President), and Kris Hall (Asst. Coach/Diversity Camps)

Below is our final report of BMA's grant use for the 2021/2022 Montana Swimming fiscal year covering 1st and 2nd half grants:

Bozeman Multisport Aquatics - Brookies	Grant Awarded	\$ Spent
Reach Out Grant 2nd Half received May 2021 Carried Forward	91	
Reach Out Grant 1st Half received 11/16/21	2,500	
Unused funds budgeted in previous grant:		
SC Dues Scholarship Adjust-5 athletes*1 mth less* \$60) #1	300	
Meet Fees Scholarship 3 athletes not swim meet #2	225	
USAS/BMA Registrations #3	107	
Total 1st Half Grant & Carry-forward	3,223	
 Reach Out Grant Carried Forward to SC 2022	 3,223	
Reach Out Grant 2nd Half (Did not Apply)	0	
SC Dues Scholarships Latinx, Am. Indian, Underfund		
Meet Fees - Latinx, Am. Indian & Underfunded Outreach		
Learn-to Swim Diversity Camp		
Remaining Funds, for outreach/minority scholarships		
Total 2nd Half Grant & Carry-forward	3,223	
 Total Reach Out Grants 1st & 2nd Half	 2,500	

Notes:

- 1) SC21 Season 1 month shorter than estimated
- 2) Three scholarship athletes did not swim in a meet in SC
- 3) Lower registration cost than estimated/planned