

# RISING ABOVE

THE WAVE - JULY 2021

#### **News from the Executive Director**

By Mike Switalski

Welcome back to the City Swim Project! As we continue our recovery from COVID and more families return or join for the first time, they will experience many notable improvements and changes to our services. First, a name change, we are transitioning from being recognized as Buffalo City Swim Racers to being known as the City Swim Project. Second, we have hired 3 full time staff (see website for bios) and are in the process of adding a salaried part-time Director of Support Services. We have streamlined many elements to give clarity on lessons and practices.

Our Learn to Swim Director, Patti Nabinger, provides structure, continuity and leadership for our LTS program. She has established the start of an Adult Learn to Swim Program to increase our relationship in the community.

Head Coach Rick Aronberg brings world class knowledge to our competitive program as we create a greater focus on bringing kids to the competitive level.

Lamont Williams is our Director of Business Development. Lamont will work with Patti, Rick and myself on expanding the capacity of our program to serve the membership in and out of the pool.

The Director of Support Services is a position we have created to build our out of pool services. We plan to have this position filled by the end of July.

The position will focus on 5 pillars: Academic Support/College Readiness, Workforce Development, Community Service, Mentorship and Nutrition Education. Watch your email for an announcement soon.



Beyond the pool.
We continue our fundraising efforts, to not only maintain our current services but strengthen and expand them. If you would like

to donate to the program, please go to our "Donate" tab on the website. One date to note is Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. We have partnered with the Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres and over 400 other WNY organizations. They are running an event called <u>GIVE 716</u> It is a one day fundraising event to support local nonprofits like ours. Please <u>click here</u> to see our page on the GIVE716 website. We hope you take the time to be a donor and recruit others to give to our program under the "Sports and Recreation" group.

We are excited about the future and working with you to make our program the most successful in WNY and beyond!

### From the desk of Learn to Swim Director

By Patti Nabinger

The City Swim Project (CSP) has been working extremely hard as our community is coming out of the pandemic. Behind the scenes the many changes have taken place for the better of the program. The project has moved to online registration process to expedite getting swimmers in for lessons. In the past it took much longer. Since reentering the water in January, we have registered nearly 200 youths at all levels of swim. We are fielding more calls daily!

The new web page is very creative and includes resources for families and our new team store. So, families can purchase your own swag and those great gifts for special occasions. Check it out as we have also added a picture page of the swimmers.

Effective, July 1<sup>st</sup> we launched a new CSP initiative. The Swimmer of the Month. Swimmers are level blue and above. The coaches will select 1 swimmer each month to be awarded City Swim Project/TIDE apparel/gear. The criteria for selection will include but not limited to practice attendance, work ethic, mentorship/leadership, sportsmanship, positive attitude, and academic performance.

Learn to swim programs will go full throttle all summer. All children learn to swim programs will end August 20<sup>th</sup>. As always, we will be looking for lifeguards and swimmers wanting to be lifeguards to be employed as swim coaches starting at age 16. Please feel free to refer them to the project.



## Important info!

- 1. Please register your child for the 2021-2022 season starting in September
- 2. No lessons Aug 23rd Sept 19th



### **News from the Head Coach**

By Rick Aronberg

This past January saw the start of something exciting. It was the first competitive team that the City Swim Project (formerly Buffalo City Swim Racers) put together. The first group of swimmers saw three groups form the competitive team which includes the Bronze, Silver and Gold teams. You can find their criteria on the <u>Buffalo TIDE website</u>. In April, we added the Pre-Competitive team which includes the Green and Black teams. You can find their criteria on the <u>Buffalo TIDE</u> website as well.



Throughout these months, we were able to start teaching both groups different things to get them stronger in the water as well as trying to become more proficient and confident. The competitive team was able compete in three competitions from April –

June and the Pre-competitive team will hopefully start seeing some beginner level swim meets starting in the fall.

The Buffalo TIDE has set some strong goals for the years to come but is enjoying the daily and weekly practices as these swimmers are setting the standards for those to follow. This short season was all about getting the swimmers to start bonding with each other and become a TEAM. We also used this time to really emphasize the important things it takes to become stronger competitive swimmers such as teaching a strong work ethic, using the pace clock as a valuable tool for improving and fun.



- 1. Please register your child for the 2021-2022 season starting in September
- 2. No practice August 5th and 6th
- 3. No practice Aug 14th Sept 11th (TEAM BREAK)
- 4. First day back is September 13th



There are many other items that can be placed here as well.

The 2020-2021 swim season will conclude on August 13<sup>th</sup> and we will restart on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Starting in early September, we ask that you re-sign up for the 2021-2022 season which we hope will be just as exciting as this past year.

