

Dear Pacific Swimming Diversity Committee,

We are so thankful for the support that the grant we received from the Pacific Swimming Diversity Committee has provided for our Waves for Change program. So far this semester we have served between 30 and 40 youth every week. At this current time over 60% of the young people involved in this program can swim at least 100 yards of freestyle and tread water for 2 minutes. We are still working this group on their progress on the underwater swim. The other students that cannot swim this distance yet are adjusting well and are becoming more and more comfortable in their basic swimming strokes as well as the techniques they have developed to keep themselves safe in the water. Based on the progress we have seen in the group we are confident that at least 80% of the students will be competent in at least 2 strokes and complete the full swim test (100 yards of freestyle, 2 minutes of treading, and 15 yard underwater swim). We are also confident that we'll be able to incorporate five of these students into our swim team and possibly even become lifeguards after this program. At this point we are still introducing all of these participants to these opportunities in the world of aquatics.

There are two specific things that we are very excited about, which were made possible by this grant. The first is the opportunity to provide equipment and gear that directly support the kids and this program. Each child gets goggles and a swim cap and we were able to purchase fins which help develop confidence and technique for our participants. The other thing that we are very excited about is doing an end of the semester swim-a-thon and celebration. This event will allow the youth involved in the program a chance to demonstrate their swimming ability to their family, friends, each other, and themselves. All of the swimmers will be given a t-shirt, a prize, and a celebration to commemorate their accomplishment.

All of us here at the Presidio Y along with each of the students involved in our Waves for change program are so excited and thankful for this gift that we have received from the Pacific Swimming Diversity Committee. Thank you for your generosity and your commitment to help us develop and teach young people to swim, that otherwise may not have the chance to learn this vital life skill.

Sincerely,  
Matt Eaton  
Presidio Y Aquatics Director