

NYS TEMPORARY COMMISSION TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD DROWNING
FRIDAY, June 2, 2023
9:30-11:30 AM

Agenda:

- Call to Order
- Reminder: Commissioners need to be on camera. The volume needs to be unmuted. Your complete name needs to be displayed.
- Guidelines: - Public Participation:
- Introductions:
- Approval of Minutes from previous meeting

- Chairman/Vice-Chairman Description updated with Gender Neutral Pronouns
- Meeting Dates: conflicts
- Extension of the commission bill numbers: Senate S.6764; Assembly A.7609

Discussion: - Where are we on each Goal?

- Goal A-1 & A-2:

- Goal B: Feasibility & Effectiveness - Brian, Heidi

- Goal C: Partnerships - Gwen

- Goal D: Underserved - Mike, Kevin, Casper

- Goal E: Awareness - Kathryn, Heidi

Define Terms: Glossary of Terms to create a common state-wide vocabulary; other suggestions for words to be added to the list.

- Swim Instructor

- Underserved

11:20 For the Good of the Group

Game Plan for next meeting - 6/16/2023.

11:30 Adjourned

Upcoming Events: Guest Speakers

6/16/2023: Richard E Specht, Jr., Founder/CEO, The ReesSpecht Life Foundation (Heidi); DEI (Mike)

6/30/2023: DIA (Mike)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS: To Create A Standardized Vocabulary for the State

Aquatic environments:

Aquatic Literacy - Synonym for Water Competency (Dr. Langendorfer)

Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (AHPERD)

Environmental Stewardship

High Quality Swim Program

Incentivized - Greg clarified that the word was intended to refer to encouraging rather than a tangible, physical benefit. - minutes 4/21/2023

Physical Literacy - The physical competence, motivation, self-efficacy, confidence, and the knowledge and understanding that individuals develop in order to remain physically active throughout their lives (Whitehead, 2010) - Dr. Clancy Seymour

Progressive Swim Instructor

The term is sort of defined in our [children's camp regulation](#) Section [7-2.5\(f\)](#)

7-2.5(f) Progressive swimming instructor – As described in the camp's approved safety plan, a progressive swimming instructor must

assess the swimming ability of each camper prior to allowing the child to participate in aquatic activities. A progressive swimming

instructor must be either:

(1) a Water Safety Instructor currently certified by the ARC; or

(2) possess a current certificate issued by a certifying agency determined by the State Commissioner of Health to provide an adequate level of similar training.

The certificates determined by the State Commissioner of Health to provide an adequate level of similar training are posted here:

[Progressive Swimming Instructor Fact Sheet \(ny.gov\)](#)

Rescue Skills

Swimming

Swim Instructor

Underserved -

Water Comfort Level

Water Competency (Pool versus Natural Water)

**NYS TEMPORARY COMMISSION TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD
DROWNING
9:30 AM TO 11:30 AM**

June 2
June 16

June 2
June 16
June 30

July 14
July 28

August 11
August 25

September 8
September 22

October 6
October 20

November 3
November 17

December 1
December 15
December 29

New York State Commission on Drowning Prevention

Goal D

Implementation Plan for Swimming Safety Programs in Underserved Communities

Objective: To ensure that swimming safety programs are accessible and available to underserved communities

Identify Target Underserved Communities

- Conduct a thorough assessment of the demographics and characteristics of the community to identify areas that are underserved in terms of swimming safety programs.
- Consider factors such as income levels, access to transportation, language barriers, cultural considerations, and any other relevant factors that may impact participation in swimming safety programs.
- Develop dry land program for communities without swimming pools.
- Develop Partnerships
 - Identify local community organizations, schools, and other stakeholders that serve the identified target underserved communities.
 - Establish partnerships and collaborations with these organizations to leverage their resources and networks to reach out to the community and promote the swimming safety programs offered in their respective communities
 - Collaborate with local schools to integrate swimming safety education as part of their physical education curriculum or after-school programs.

Outreach and Promotion

- Develop a comprehensive outreach and promotion plan that utilizes multiple channels to reach the target communities, including community events, social media, flyers, posters, and local media.
- Translate promotional materials into multiple languages spoken in the community, as needed, to overcome language barriers.

- Offer incentives, such as discounted or free classes, to encourage participation from underserved communities.
- Utilize local community leaders and influencers to promote the swimming safety programs and build trust within the community.

Financial Assistance

- Establish a financial assistance program to provide scholarships or discounts to individuals or families from underserved communities who may face financial barriers to participating in the swimming safety programs.
- Seek funding from grants, sponsorships, or donations to support the financial assistance program and make it sustainable.

Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusivity

- Ensure that the swimming safety programs offered are culturally sensitive and inclusive to the diversity of the underserved populations in the state
- Train instructors and staff on cultural competency to better understand and respect the cultural differences of the participants.
- Create an inclusive environment that welcomes individuals of all backgrounds, abilities, and identities, and actively addresses any discriminatory behavior or attitudes.

Evaluation and Monitoring

- Implement a system to regularly evaluate and monitor the effectiveness and impact of the swimming safety programs in the underserved communities.
- Collect data on program participation, outcomes, and feedback from participants and stakeholders to measure the success of the implementation plan.
- Use the evaluation results to make necessary adjustments and improvements to the program and implementation plan as needed.

Long-term Sustainability

- Develop a plan to ensure the long-term sustainability of the swimming safety programs in underserved communities.

- Explore opportunities for ongoing funding, partnerships, and collaborations with local organizations, businesses, and government agencies.
- Continuously monitor and evaluate the program's impact and effectiveness and make necessary adjustments to ensure its sustainability.

Committee Members

Casper Lassiter

Mike. Switalski

Kevin Clark

Water Safety Recommendations

Active Adult Supervision: Designated Water Watcher

Barriers: 4-sided fencing with self-locking gate; if the one side of the house is the fourth wall of the fence, then add an additional layer of fencing around the pool

Clothing: Bright swim clothing (red, hot pink, lime green, orange, fluorescent yellow)

Drains (know how to turn off the pool pump in case something/someone gets sucked into the drain)

Education: CPR and Swim Lessons

Floatation Aids: PFD's, lifejackets

Groups: use the buddy system

H₂O (water) Environments: understand the water environment you are swimming in

Intoxication: watch out for intoxication due to alcohol and medications

Synthesized from Karen Cohn's presentation, Reginald Chatman's research presented at the Columbia University Injury Prevention Symposium, and Marrick McDonald

NYS TEMPORARY COMMISSION TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD DROWNING

DUTIES OF CHAIRMAN

- to open meeting at the appointed time by taking the chair and calling the meeting to order, having ascertained that quorum is present
- To announce in proper sequence the business that comes before the assembly or becomes in order in accordance with the prescribed order of business, agenda, or program, and with existing orders of the day
- To recognize members who are entitled to the floor
- To state and to put to vote all questions that legitimately come before the assembly as motions or that otherwise arise in the course of proceedings (except questions that relate to the presiding officer themselves in the manner noted below), and to announce the result of each vote, or, if a motion that is not in order is made, to rule it out of order.
- To protect the assembly from obviously frivolous or dilatory motions by refusing to recognize them
- To enforce the rules relating to debate and those relating to order and decorum within the assembly
- To expedite business in every way compatible with the rights of members
- To decide all questions of order, subject to appeal - unless, when in doubt, the presiding officer prefers initially to submit such a question to the assembly for decision
- To respond to inquiries of members relating to parliamentary procedure or factual information bearing on business of the assembly
- To authenticate by their other signature, when necessary, all acts, orders, and proceedings of the assembly
- To declare the meeting adjourned when the assembly so votes or - where applicable - at the time prescribed in the program, or at any time in the event of a sudden emergency affecting the safety of those present

DUTIES OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

- If the chair for any reason vacates the chair or is absent, the vice-chairman normally should take the chair unless they also, because of involvement in the debate or for any other reason, should disqualify themselves from presiding in the particular case.

Updated 5/31/2023 with feedback from 5/19/2023 meeting

Goal A-2: Learning Standards: (approved 5/19/2023)

With input from NYS AHPERD Aquatic Section; Kathleen Young, Newburgh Free Academy; Dr. Steven Langendorfer; New York State Red Cross Instructors & Instructor Trainers Facebook Group (with 200 instructors throughout NY State)

Standard 1: (Psychomotor) - Demonstrates age and ability-appropriate water proficiency in a variety of aquatic motor skills and movement patterns in aquatic environments.

Standard 2: (Cognitive, Psychomotor) - Applies basic knowledge of hydrodynamic principles, strategies, and concepts related to swimming and water safety when in aquatic environments.

Standard 3: (Cognitive, Psychomotor) - Demonstrates the capacity to employ knowledge and skills to achieve and maintain a level of physical activity and fitness in all aquatic environments.

Standard 4: (Affective) - Exhibits responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in aquatic environments.

Standard 5: (Affective) - Recognizes the value and respect of aquatic-related physical activity for overall wellness, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/or environmental stewardship.

Standard 6: (Cognitive, Affective) - Recognizes aquatic career opportunities and manages personal and community resources related to aquatics to achieve and maintain overall wellness.

Standard 7: (Cognitive, Affective, Psychomotor) - Recognizes and applies behaviors that promote safe experiences in all aquatic environments; identifies situations and conditions which pose safety hazards; and explains and demonstrates age, ability, and training appropriate rescue skills.

**NEW YORK STATE
TEMPORARY COMMISSION TO PREVENT CHILDHOOD DROWNING**

Goals of Commission:

The commission shall:

(a) Determine an appropriate age and/or stage of childhood development when children can properly begin water safety and swimming instructions and develop statewide standards for such instruction;

(b) Investigate and evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of programs which incentivize parents and guardians to enroll children in water safety and swimming instruction;

(c) Develop a comprehensive plan for public-private partnerships between the state and community centers, nonprofit organizations, recreational facilities, swimming instructors, and other relevant stakeholders and expanding existing state resources such as parks and pools to provide access to free swimming instruction, and determine the feasibility of such programs;

(d) Develop an implementation plan to ensure its swimming safety programs are available in underserved communities; and

(e) Develop a comprehensive plan for a public awareness campaign to ensure parents and guardians receive information on the importance of children receiving basic water safety and swimming instruction.