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Lancaster Family YMCA branches to host youth Safety Around Water classes

Classes open to the community at all YMCA Branches on April 1

Lancaster, PA (March 16) – Teaching children how to be safe around water is not a luxury; it is a necessity. Drowning is the second leading cause of death for children ages 5-14 and 60% of children who drown are within 10 feet of safety.

As one of its mission priorities, the Lancaster Family YMCA is committed to teaching children to swim and learn to be safe around water. On April 1, the City Center YMCA, the Lampeter-Strasburg YMCA and the YMCA at New Holland will host complimentary Safety Around Water classes geared towards children who have not had previous swimming or water safety instruction and cannot jump into the water and exit on their own. These classes will give children an overview of water safety skills and provide parents with an assessment of their child's current skill level and needs.

Lancaster Family YMCA Safety Around Water Classes - April 1

Classes offered at the City Center YMCA, Lampeter-Strasburg YMCA and YMCA at New Holland.
Preschool Class (ages 3-5), 12:30 PM - 1:15 PM
Youth Class (ages 6-12), 1:30 PM - 2:15 PM

The YMCA Safety Around Water classes are free to the public, but registration for the class is required and can be completed at any YMCA branch or through the YMCA's online program registration site <https://operations.daxko.com/Online/2240/Programs/Search.mvc/> (*enter safety around water in the search feature*). Registration for the class ends March 25. For more information please visit www.lancasterymca.org.

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Working in collaboration with the School District of Lancaster and the Lancaster Recreation Commission, in 2016 the Lancaster Family YMCA offered subsidized swimming and Safety Around Water classes to second graders in the School District of Lancaster and also partnered with the ELANCO School District to provide this training to underserved children in the district. The Lampeter-Strasburg YMCA hosts the Lampeter-Strasburg School District's Second Grade Learn to Swim program.

As a nonprofit, charitable organization focused on Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility, the Lancaster Family YMCA branches offer youth swim lessons throughout the year. Financial assistance is available towards program fees for those in need.