Catch the Wave

April, 2008

Dear Friend,

Unintentional drowning is the leading cause of death in toddlers ages 1-4 in Florida every year. Florida has the highest death rate in the nation, nearly 3 times the national average for children in this age group. With thousands of backyard swimming pools, lakes, canals, public swimming pools and the ocean all easily accessible, the need for swimming is critical. A child can die from drowning in the time it takes to answer the telephone. There is no excuse. Drowning is preventable. The answer is teaching children and adults to swim.

The FLA Foundation™, a 501(c)3 charitable organization, was created in May 2007 to encourage and promote the sport of swimming within our community. The goals of the Foundation are to bring swimming to diverse and underserved communities, to promote a healthier lifestyle and to create swimming opportunities at the learn to swim, recreational and competitive levels.

The Foundation is in a unique position to meet these challenges in our community. In partnership with Fort Lauderdale Aquatics (FLA), the FLA Foundation™ is able to utilize the teaching expertise of the FLA coaching staff and the swimming facilities within our area.

Plans are underway for our inaugural dinner auction, *"Catch the Wave,"* to be held on Saturday, October 18, 2008 at the International Swimming Hall of Fame. We invite you to support the auction by donating an item to the auction.

If you would like to donate an item, please fill out the Auction Acquisition Form and return it in the self-addressed envelope or fax it to the number below. The fair market value of items donated to FLA Foundation's auction is tax deductible. You will receive an acknowledgement for IRS purposes upon receipt of your donation. We will be happy to pick up the item(s) you are donating.

Please help make our community safer and healthier by donating today. We can prevent drowning and promote healthier children and adults, one swimmer at a time.

Respectfully submitted,

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