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. It is our goal to have 100% of the cost of the auction covered so the proceeds raised the night of the gala will directly benefit our swimming programs and the needs of our community.

We invite you to support the auction through various underwriting opportunities. We have enclosed an auction underwriter's packet so that you may select your area of interest, or make an outright gift. Underwriters will be gratefully acknowledged at the event and will be our guest at a private reception before the auction.

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,

Charlotte Sauer
Auction Chairperson
954-802-2490

Kathryn Jennison, Esq.
Executive Director
954-713-6388