



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**\*\*\*MEDIA ALERT/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY\*\*\***

**Tampa YMCA & Partners Start Free Mobile Swim Lessons  
Thanks to Children's Board**

**WHAT:** The [Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA](#) will start a free mobile water safety program next Monday, June 4 thanks to the generosity of the Children's Board of Hillsborough County. This is the fourth summer certified instructors, from the Tampa YMCA and Brandon Sports & Aquatic Center, will travel to pools located in apartment complexes and local neighborhoods to provide free lessons in basic water safety/swimming skills. Up to 24 children, ages 3-14, may participate in each one-week session. The 45-minute classes are offered Monday through Friday at 25 sites.

"The goal is to eliminate barriers that can prevent parents from getting their kids into water safety or swim classes," says Tampa Y Aquatics Experience Executive Amanda Walker. "We want to remove challenges such as transportation issues, a hectic work schedule and other deterrents."

Partners of this innovative program, funded by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County, include the Tampa YMCA and Brandon Sports & Aquatic Center.

**WHEN:** June 4 - August 9

**WHERE:** Multiple locations throughout Hillsborough County.

**PHOTO OP:** Photos/video of children learning how to swim in their community pool. Interview opportunities with the Y's Aquatics Experience Executive who oversees the Mobile Swim Lesson program and Children's Board leadership, who fund the program.

**WHY:** Drowning is the leading cause of preventable deaths among Tampa Bay area children ages 1-5. Statistics show with proper instruction, the likelihood of a child drowning drops as much as 88 percent.

**CONTACT:** For more information about the Mobile Swim Lesson program, contact [Chris.Alaynick@tampaymca.org](mailto:Chris.Alaynick@tampaymca.org) or 813.224.9622, ext. 1292. Media members can contact [Lalita.Llerena@tampaymca.org](mailto:Lalita.Llerena@tampaymca.org) or 813.545.7772.

###