Bridging the Gap

By Kathy Mendez
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Mission Statement: To assist USA Swimming in creating a culture of inclusion and opportunity for people of diverse backgrounds, including, but not limited to, race, age, income, ethnicity, religion, gender, and sexual orientation.

(Committed to a culture of union and opportunity for ALL)
Getting to know me

- Kathy Mendez: mom, wife, daughter, swimmer, coach, aunt, nana, lover of life
- USA Swimming National Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair
- Oklahoma Swimming Diversity and Inclusion Chair
- King Marlin Swim Club co-owner; co-head coach

Getting to know you

Get ready to share....

Number of years coaching
Main Group
Small, Medium, Large club
LSC position
Outreach
Bridging the Gap

Combined Effort Between

USA Swimming
  Zones
  LSC
  Clubs
  Members

GAP

- An unfilled space or interval; a break in continuity.
- Can't swim  GAP  USA Swimming
- Swim lessons  GAP  USA Swimming
- USA census  GAP  USA Swimming
1. Learn to swim

- USA Swimming Foundation – Make A Splash
- USA Swimming – Sigma Gamma Rho
- LSC – Learn to Swim Clinics
- Clubs – Learn to Swim Clinics/Camps/Swim Lessons

**USA Swimming Foundation**

- [Make A Splash](http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2092&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en)

**JOIN THE MAKE A SPLASH LOCAL PARTNER NETWORK**

- Below are lists of benefits, requirements, and forms necessary to become a local partner program. For more information on the Make a Splash Local Partner Program, please contact Shweta Shreyarthi at sshreyarthi@usaswimming.org or 719.866.3546 with questions about the Make a Splash Local Partner Program.
- To apply: use this link: [https://fs22.formsite.com/usaswimming/form13/index.html](https://fs22.formsite.com/usaswimming/form13/index.html)
“Over our more than 90 years of existence, we have partnered and aligned ourselves with a number of organizations with like values, foci and community thrusts, but none have been more impressive or impactful than our partnership with USA Swimming. Since our inception in 1922, we believe that education is the main vehicle to reach the youth.” Secenario Jones, Sigma Gamma Rho 1922 Partnership Liaison
LSC
Swim Clinics

WHERE: Mitch Park, Edmond, OK
WHEN: Sunday, February 05, 2017
TIME: 10:00am—11:15am
Limited availability - Register today (1st registered 1st served)

Register by Thursday, February 2 by contacting
Kathy Mendez
Oklahoma Swimming
Diversity &Inclusion
(405) 365-5776
Or okswim@hotmail.com
Child's first/last name, age, gender
3.5 yrs old (36mo) max

Clubs/Individuals
Learn to Swim
Camps/Clinics/Lessons

• 20 + years of involvement
Beginning
National Diversity Select Camp
Formal Swim Lessons
Retention
GAP
Swim Lessons to USA Swimming

- Bridge program from swim lessons to USA Swimming

USA Swimming Foundation
Bridge Rewards Program

Clubs/Coaches

- Gap programming
- 2. Race, have competitions
- 3. Run club summer league program
- 4. USA Club coaches infiltrate country and summer league programs
GAP
USA Census to USA Swimming

- USA Swimming - Community Swim Teams/Diversity Camp Progression/Sigma Gamma Rho/Diversity and Inclusion Resource Guides/Marketing
- Zones- D&I Camps/Multicultural Swim Meets/Regional Diversity & Inclusion Summits
- LSC's-D&I Camps/Multicultural Swim Meets/LSC Diversity & Inclusion Summits
- Clubs-Clinics/Swim Meets/Inclusive environment
USA Swimming

- Community Swim Teams
  [Link](http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2838&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en)

- Diversity Camp Progression
  [Link](http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2827&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en)

- Diversity Coach Mentorship Program
  [Link](http://www.usaswimming.org/ViewNewsArticle.aspx?TabId=2830&itemid=14588&mid=17751)

- USA Swimming & Sigma Gamma Rho, Inc. Partnership
  [Link](http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2414&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en)

USA Swimming D&I Resources
USASWIMMING.ORG/DIVERSITY

- USAS Convention
  Diversity & Inclusion Track
  9/10-9/17
  Dallas, TX
Q & A

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