Our organization is sensitive to differences between ethnic/cultural groups, and is
dedicated to values of inclusion and respect. We recognize and respect that the term
“Hispanic” refers broadly to people, nations, and cultures with historical ties to Spain,
while “Latino” refers to people and cultures originating from Cuba, Mexico, Puerto
Rico, and South or Central America. For the sake of this Cultural Resource Guide,
the terms “Hispanic” and “Latino” are used to refer generally to anyone identifying
geographically, linguistically, or culturally with Spanish origins.

We will use the term “Hispanic/Latino” as a representative term for all groups.

USA Swimming is committed
to a culture of inclusion and
opportunity for people of diverse
backgrounds, including, but not
limited to, race, age, income,
ethnicity, religion, gender, gender
expression, and sexual orientation.
The Hispanic/Latino demographic is currently the largest ethnic minority in the U.S. The Hispanic/Latino population is expected to reach 199 million by 2060.

- 60% of Hispanic/Latinos DON’T KNOW HOW to swim.
- 88% Formal swim lessons can REDUCE the likelihood of childhood drowning by 88%.

- 10 people drown in the US EVERYDAY.
- 321.4 million people in the U.S.
- 17.4% of whom are Hispanic/Latino.
- 339,903 year-round athletes registered with USA Swimming.
- 10,068 of whom are Hispanic/Latino=2.9%.

These estimations are based on the 2010 census and 2014 USA Swimming membership information.
In 2010, USA Swimming Foundation and the University of Memphis teamed up to identify key barriers to urban minority group participation in swimming. These barriers actively prevent minority groups from wanting to engage in the sport:

- Fear factor (both swimmer and parent)
- Swimming ability
- Physical appearance
- Parental influence/encouragement
- Role model recognition/influence
- Access to facilities

USA Swimming recognizes the value of diversity in our organization and our swim teams. We are dedicated to addressing these obstacles and extending our reach to minority groups.
WHY SWIM?
Prevent Drowning

Drowning is a leading killer of American children.
*Currently, 70% of African-Americans and 60% of Hispanic/Latino children are unable to swim.

Source: National research study by the USA Swimming Foundation and the University of Memphis
PROMOTE
FITNESS

Over 30% of kids are at risk for obesity-related illnesses. Swimming is a lifetime activity for ages 1 to 101. It is easy on joints and relatively injury free compared to other youth sports. Swimming also reduces exercise-induced asthma and burns calories quickly.

SKILL AND STRENGTH

Swimming teaches skill development and improves strength and coordination. Many super-stars in other sports started as swimmers, where they gained the strength and coordination necessary to excel.
**LIFE VALUES**

Swim team cultivates a positive mental attitude and high self-esteem. Kids work together to achieve team goals and learn sportsmanship as they deal with winning and losing. Swimmers also learn to work with officials, teammates, and coaches.

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**PHYSICAL SUCCESS**

Swimmers are motivated to strive for self-improvement. They learn how to set goals and work towards them in practice and at meets.
CAMP SYSTEM

The National Diversity Select Camp (NDSC) is a camp that invites 48 athletes from underrepresented demographics to a 3-day camp that includes pool and classroom sessions with a focus on leadership. For more information please visit:

https://www.usaswimming.org/camps

To progress to the NDSC, camps are also available at the Zone and LSC (Local Swimming Committee) level.

http://www.usaswimming.org/camps

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

USA Swimming offers a Diversity Coach Mentorship Program. This program focuses on matching diverse mentee coaches with experienced mentor coaches.

http://www.usaswimming.org/diversity
Along with the help of LSCs, USA Swimming looks to partner with diverse communities around the country in order to increase the diversity of our membership. http://www.usaswimming.org/diversity
USA Swimming offers an Outreach Membership program that provides a discounted membership fee to need-based youth in the community.

http://www.usaswimming.org/diversity

MAKE A SPLASH

The USA Swimming Foundation’s Make a Splash initiative is a national child-focused water safety campaign, which aims to provide the opportunity for every child in America to learn to swim. For information on lesson opportunities near you, please visit:

http://www.usaswimmingfoundation.org

OUTREACH

USA Swimming’s Diversity and Inclusion Resource webpage has articles, videos, resource guides, and other materials in both English and Spanish, to help LSCs and clubs develop multi-cultural programming at the grassroots level.

http://www.usaswimming.org/diversity
The following athletes have achieved elite level success in the sport of swimming either in or out of the pool.

JESSE VASSALLO

PABLO MORALES
JESSE VASSALLO

- Started swimming at age 9, in Ponce, Puerto Rico
- 1980 & 1984 U.S. Olympic Swimming Team
- Former world record holder in the 200 meter and 400 meter IM, and two-time World Champion
- 1978 World Swimmer of the Year
- Honor Member of the International Swimming Hall of Fame

PABLO MORALES

- Born to Cuban immigrants
- Set his first world record in the 100 meter butterfly, before age 20
- Swam for Stanford, earning 3 consecutive NCAA team championships, 11 individual NCAA titles and was a 3-time Academic All-American
- Has 15 international medals, including 3 Olympic Gold and 2 Olympic Silver
- Serves as Head Women’s Swimming and Diving Coach at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

CRISTINA TEUSCHER

- American freestyler and IMer
- U.S. gold medalist and Olympic record holder in the 4x200 meter freestyle relay (1996 Olympics)
- Bronze medalist in 200 IM (2000 Sydney Olympics)
- U.S. Team Captain (Sydney Olympics)
- Former American record holder in the 4x200 freestyle relay (2001)
- Yale Women’s Swimming and Diving Head Coach (2010-2012)
ARTHUR ALBEIRO

- USA Swimming Pan American Games Coaching Staff (2015)
- USA Swimming Junior National and National Team Coach (2015-2016)
- Swam for Oakland University, earning 3 straight NCAA Division II team titles and 1 individual NCAA Division II title
- 18-time All American and 3-time Scholastic All-American
- 3-time Big East Coach of the Year
- Served as Olympic coach for Portugal and Romania
- Currently the Head Coach at the University of Louisville, where he coaches world record holder Kelsi Worrell.

MARITZA CORREIA

- First female Puerto Rican of African American descent to become a medal winner as a member of the 2004 Olympic team
- First African-American in the U.S. to set American records in an individual event in swimming and to set a world record
- 27-time All-American at the University of Georgia, winning every distance of freestyle at least once
- 11-time NCAA Champion
- Inducted into Georgia’s Aquatics Hall of Fame.
- Member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and spokesperson for partnership
- 2013 Recipient of USA Swimming’s Diversity and Inclusion Award
MARTIN ZUBERO

- Dual citizenship in the U.S. and Spain
- Swam in three Olympics representing Spain and won 12 international medals, including 1 Olympic Gold medal in the 200 backstroke (1992 Olympics)
- Head Boys and Girls Swimming Coach at the Episcopal School of Jacksonville, and Episcopal Amberjax’s year-round team
- Inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2004

SERGIO LOPEZ

- Member of the Spanish National Team between 1984 and 1996
- Bronze medalist in the 200 breaststroke (1988 Olympics)
- Head Coach, men and women’s swim teams, at West Virginia University (2005-2007).
- 2-time Big East Coach of the Year and 2007 Men’s Big East Team Champions
- Head Swim Coach at Bolles School in Jacksonville, Florida (2007-14), 4-time Boys National Team High School Champions
- Coached 12 swimmers at the 2008 & 2012 Olympics
- National Coach at Olympics, World Championships, Jr. World Championships, European Championships, Junior Pan Pacs, Carifta Games and SEA Games for multiple countries.

FERNANDO CANALES

- Former freestyle swimmer and coach from Guaynabo, Puerto Rico
- Inducted into Puerto Rico Sports Hall of Fame
- Swam in three Olympic Games, and was the flag bearer for the Puerto Rican Delegation during Opening Ceremonies (1984 Olympics)
- Pan American Games medalist (San Juan 1979 and Caracas 1983); USA Swimming National Champion (1986)
- Member of USA Swimming’s International Relations Committee since 2003
- National Team Coach for France and Turkey (2013 & 2015 FINA World Championships)
ILEANA (IKE) LOCHTE

- Born in Havana, Cuba and moved to the USA in 1959 during the Cuban Revolution
- Age group swim team and synchronized swimmer, and Varsity swimmer at Hebert Lehman College
- Over 40 years of aquatic experience
- Head Age Group Coach for MCC Marauders in Rochester, NY and Daytona Beach Swimming in Daytona Beach, FL
- Taught Future Olympian Ryan Lochte how to swim.
- Mom ambassador for London Olympics for P&G

ARTHUR LOPEZ

- Full time Federal lawyer, Latino community activist and USA Swim Coach
- Founder of Nadar por Vida, a Latino based swim organization that bridged the gap between competitive swimming and learn to swim programs for at-risk, low income families
- Recipient of the USA Swimming Diversity Award in 2009
- Recipient of Potomac Valley Swimming’s Lifetime Achievement Award
GET INVOLVED

Getting into the sport of swimming is now easier than ever and it all starts with a phone call or click of a button.

To find swimming lessons in your community click here: http://www.usaswimmingfoundation.org

To find a swim team in your area please click here: http://www.swimtoday.org/

To learn more about USA Swimming’s diversity programming, please contact our Diversity and Inclusion Team: http://www.usaswimming.org/diversity

For general questions, please contact our office at: (719) 866-4578

To find swimming lessons in your community click here: http://www.usaswimmingfoundation.org