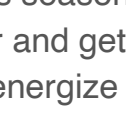


Centennial Connection



American Red Cross

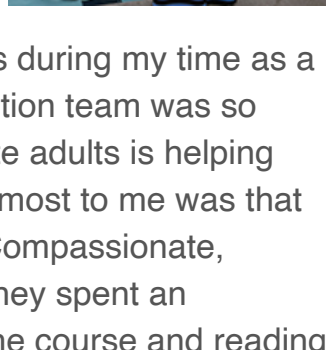


Openers

Happy Fall! We hope this season is allowing you to take a breather from the busyness of summer and get some good planning, preparation and in-service training to re-energize yourselves and your teams. Our thoughts are with any of you who were impacted by the recent hurricanes in the east and wildfires in the west. Please be sure to reach out to us if there is anything we can do to help.

And speaking of getting re-energized... at this writing, Stephanie just wrapped up a Water Safety Instructor® training with one of our newest Centennial Campaign programs, **The Riviera Club Foundation** in Indianapolis, IN.

Here's what she has to say:

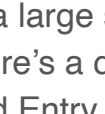


"I have taught many Water Safety Instructor courses during my time as a WSIT. My experience with The Riviera Club Foundation team was so inspirational. Their team of dedicated and passionate adults is helping children in their area learn to swim. What stood out most to me was that these adults exemplify the 5 Cs of the Red Cross: Compassionate, Creative, Collaborative, Committed and Credible. They spent an incredible amount of time practicing, preparing for the course and reading the materials. They could even quote the book by our third class and reference where the information was located. I was so impressed!! Each person came with a very different perspective and background, which made this class unique. Some had even been certified as lifeguards over 40 years ago, and they still remember all the rescues. Others had teaching backgrounds and applied those teaching techniques and creativity to their lesson plans. Overall, it was the commitment and compassion they have for their students that energized them to take the time out of their busy schedules to take the course. I cannot wait to see the impact they have in their community! We are so proud of The Riviera Club Foundation."

Welcome to Our New(er) Centennial Campaign Programs

The expansion to 100 Centennial Campaign programs continues. This includes the renewal of existing programs. Whether a new program or continuing, we're glad you are part of the campaign!

- City of Hoover Parks and Recreation, AL
- Huron Clinton Metro Parks, MI
- The Riviera Club Foundation, IN
- City of Tracy, CA



Operations

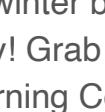
Pro Tip for Entering LTS Course Records

If you're struggling with a large stack of course records to enter at the end of every session, here's a quick hack to save yourself some time. In the "FAQ-Course Record Entry Changes" document in the "Announcements" section of RCLC, go to the last page for this helpful piece of information:

Q. When reporting Learn-to-Swim course records, do I need to enter all class dates/times?

A. No, for Learn-to-Swim classes (including Parent and Child Aquatics, Preschool Aquatics, Learn-to-Swim levels, Adult Swim, and Private Swim Lessons), instructors or admins may enter the last day of the class session.

Hopefully, this clarification will help you streamline your course record entry and keep you on track as we head to the end of 2024.



Resources

How to use your Oculus? Where are the resources?

So, you received your Oculus headset, and you've got some in-service training planned for the winter break. How do you get the most out of this amazing resource? Easy! Grab the "Lifeguard VR Onboarding Guide" from the Red Cross Learning Center. Go to redcrosslearningcenter.org and navigate to "Classes > Course Materials > Lifeguarding r.24 > Optional Modules" to find all the resources related to Lifeguard VR.

As you start to deploy the Lifeguard VR training program in your agency, if you have any feedback to share, please send us an e-mail at centadmin@redcross.org. Your experiences with the device could help inform future updates to the application, so don't be shy.

If you're still waiting to receive your Oculus or if you don't know what we're talking about, reach out and we can get you up to speed!

New Version of Lifeguard VR App

On Oct. 10th, we were informed that our app developer deployed an update to the Lifeguard VR App. The new version, v1.2.79, should update automatically on your Oculus the next time you connect to the internet, but you can also check for updates on the Meta App Store.

Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers Now Available in Haitian Creole

Did you know that Haitian Creole is the third most common language spoken in the state of Florida? New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey and Georgia round out the top five states with the most Haitian populations.

In support of Zero Drownings Miami-Dade (Florida) and thanks to generous funding from The Miami Foundation, the Water Safety for Parents and Caregivers free online course is now available in Haitian Creole. *Sekirite Akwatik pou Paran ak Moun k ap Pran Swen Timoun* is available, along with the English and Spanish-language versions, on redcross.org/takeaclass, Online Courses.

Water safety education for parents and caregivers is essential to an ecosystem of water safety. We strongly advocate that you integrate water safety, such as these free online courses, into your swim lesson program and general drowning prevention efforts. Be sure to set up the online courses for your community members using Request Online Classes (ROC) so enrollments get connected to your Centennial account.

Zero Drownings Miami-Dade is a large-scale drowning prevention initiative intended to transform drowning prevention education throughout the county by investing in year-round, continuous swim lessons for those who need it the most. Learn more about this innovative and collaborative initiative – including how they are integrating water safety for adults into their program – at: miamidade.gov/global/initiatives/zero-drownings.

Quick Links

Red Cross Learning Center Overview & Orientations for Instructors and Administrators

- Register Here: [Overview & Orientation Session](#)
- Register Here: [Setting Up & Delivering Classes](#)

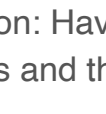
Request Online Class

Request Online Class can be found on RCLC only if you are logged into your account and you are an Administrator with Partner Portal Access. The red button for Request Online Course is on the righthand side.

- [Request Online Class](#)
- [Request Online Class Quick Reference Guide](#)

Red Cross Swim App

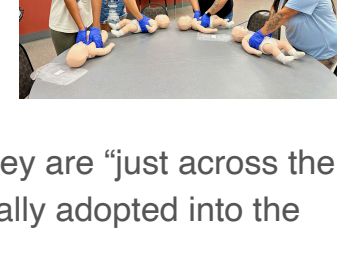
Text "Swim" to 90999 to download the Swim app! This is a great resource for parents and caregivers to access water safety information and includes lots of Longfellow's WHALE Tales content, including all the animations and live action videos. Families can also track their children's progress in swim lessons.



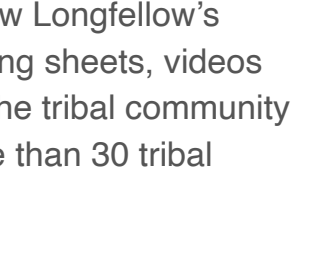
Spotlight On

The Centennial Campaign is in Lake Havasu City, Arizona

The **Lake Havasu City Parks and Recreation Department** is rocking the river and making a difference in our indigenous tribal communities with the help of the Centennial Campaign. It all started with a question: Have you ever reached out to tribal members and their families that live in your community?



With the help of the campaign and the leaders who identified several underserved populations, we are proudly offering swimming lessons to two separate schools grades TK through 8th grade, and the Chemehuevi Head Start program along with both Head Start programs in Lake Havasu City. While some of the schools are in California, they are "just across the lake" and the Centennial Campaign has been officially adopted into the curriculum for these schools.

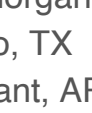


The classes offered in Lake Havasu City use the new Longfellow's WHALE Tales materials providing activity and coloring sheets, videos and so much more. Offering CPR/First Aid/AED to the tribal community has afforded training they have never had with more than 30 tribal members being certified in the first six months.

This is our first year in the campaign and we have seen the impact it has made. We have offered Lifeguarding to three tribal members who now oversee Indian Days on the lake and can't wait to see what the future brings. It all starts with one person asking one question.

Truth is, we can all make a difference. No matter how small or how insignificant the effort may seem, it can make an impact. Huge thanks and kudos to the Centennial Campaign leaders, the instructors and a municipal government who did not stop with just identifying a need but encouraged the process of making a difference.

By Swan Cooke, Aquatic Supervisor, Lake Havasu City Parks and Recreation



Calendar

Water Safety Instructor® Trainer Academies

Your approved Instructor Trainer application is valid for 1 year. The approval process takes an average of 1 to 2 weeks, so be sure to plan accordingly. Get your application in early and secure your enrollment. Enrollment closes 1 month prior to the academy, so please make sure you plan in advance.

- **December 16-20:** Morgantown, WV
- **January 6-10:** Plano, TX
- **January 27-31:** Bryant, AR
- **February 10-14:** Carson City, NV
- **February 17-21:** Bainbridge Island, WA
- **March 3-7:** Bentonville, AR
- **March 10-14:** Parkville, MO
- **March 24-28:** Verona, WI
- **March 31-April 4:** Laurel, MD
- **April 7-11:** Kingsport, TN
- **April 28-May 2:** Raleigh, NC
- **May 5-9:** Littleton, CO
- **May 12-16:** Strongsville, OH

Conferences Where Red Cross is Participating

Stop by and see us if you'll be there!

- **February 3-6:** Association of Aquatics Professionals/National Water Safety Conference, St. Petersburg, FL

[Click here to manage communication preferences.](#)