

## Desert Recreation District Awarded Funds for Operation Splash Apply for Free Swim Lessons April 1 – May 31, 2016

Indio, CA (March 30, 2016) – Thanks to a \$49,500 grant that Desert Recreation District (DRD) will receive from Kaiser Permanente, for the ninth year in a row children in the Coachella Valley can enjoy the benefits of swim lessons at no charge. Scholarships for swim lessons will be awarded to local children as part of Kaiser Permanente's Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) program. One of DRD's goals is to encourage and support healthy lifestyles through aquatic recreation, and DRD's pools in Indio, Coachella, and Mecca offer the perfect opportunity for residents to be active this summer.



Through the program, residents can apply for a scholarship for free swim lessons for children ages 3 to 14 years old. Applications for scholarships are being taken April 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>. The swim lesson scholarship confirmations will be distributed at the Operation Splash kick-off on June 11, 2016 at Bagdouma Pool in Coachella.

Residents can pick up applications for Operation Splash swim lesson scholarships at Desert Recreation District Community Centers in Indio, Coachella, Mecca, Palm Desert and La Quinta, or online at [MyRecreationDistrict.com](http://MyRecreationDistrict.com).

The Desert Recreation District manages Pawley Pool Family Aquatic Complex in Indio, Bagdouma Pool in Coachella and Mecca Pool in Mecca. Qualified participants must attend the kick-off event and pick up their scholarship confirmation at that time

The Operation Splash Kick-Off Event is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. on June 11, 2016. The Kick-Off will feature open swim at Bagdouma Pool located at 84-599 Avenue 52 in Coachella, followed by a short presentation by Kaiser Permanente at 10:00 a.m. Swim lesson scholarship confirmations will be distributed after the presentation.

For more information, contact Desert Recreation District at 760-347-3484 or [MyRecreationDistrict.com](http://MyRecreationDistrict.com).

### About Desert Recreation District

*The [Desert Recreation District](http://DesertRecreationDistrict.com) (DRD) provides quality recreation experiences to residents throughout the Greater Coachella Valley. DRD manages, maintains and assists in maintaining over 30 parks and recreation facilities; creates and delivers quality programs, services and classes; and, facilitates leisure opportunities through partnerships that encourage residents to engage in healthy lifestyles and wellness activities. DRD host's events such as the Senior Games and partners with health care organizations such as Kaiser Permanente to fund scholarships for swim lessons and junior lifeguard classes. DRD is funded through tax dollars, special assessments, grants and nominal charges assigned to select classes and events. Over the last year, DRD offered over 2,800 classes and programs and more than 200 special events.*