



TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY

TOWN COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Mayor and Town Council **Date:** December 12, 2017
From: Mayor's Youth Leadership Summit **Item No:** 1
 Winning Project Consideration Group
Subject: SWIM LESSONS FOR LOW INCOME/AT-RISK YOUTH
T.M. Approval: _____ **Budgeted Item:** Yes No N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That the Town Council approve an expenditure of up to \$1,000.00 to fund Swim Lessons for Low Income/At-Risk Youth.

SUMMARY:

Drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death for children ages 1-4, and the second leading cause for ages 1-14. Nationwide, the most at risk demographic are young (1-14), male minorities. Locally this holds true: since 2011, the average patron rescued in our Apple Valley Aquatic Center is a minority male, approximately 8 years old. This is often preventable, simply by teaching kids how to swim. With \$1,000.00, we could offer free swim lessons to 55 children over Spring Break. We will work with the School District and their family centers to identify the students that would benefit the most in Apple Valley and offer free lessons over Spring Break. Lessons would give children the ability to swim, the knowledge of how to keep themselves safe, and educate the parents on the importance of supervision.

BACKGROUND:

The inaugural Mayor's Youth Leadership Summit (MYLS) was held November 9, 2017. This year, 40 students were divided into 6 groups and presented a project in which they were required to develop a presentation to present to the Mock Youth Town Council for funding. Each of the projects submitted by department managers could be implemented in a short time frame and have a positive impact on Town services.

The Mock Youth Town Council chose to fund swim lessons for low income/at-risk youth, as submitted by Parks & Recreation Manager, Ralph Wright. Students from the winning group and the Youth Council are expected to attend the Council Meeting and present their reasons for requesting support directly to the Town Council, and request approval for actual implementation.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff has indicated that they will focus \$1,000.00 from the general fund to implement this student-supported community service effort, providing Spring Break Swim Lessons to 55 children.