



YMCA and FLORIDA BLUE CREATING A NEW WAVE OF IMPACT

Drowning is a Preventable Tragedy

Broward and Miami-Dade
Lead the Nation
In accidental drowning
among infants and small
children



Doug Bartel, Senior Director of External Relations for Florida Blue – awards \$300,000 for YMCA Water Programs



Sheryl Wood, CEO & President, YMCA of South Florida

The YMCA and its
partners aim to
change that
statistic



Florida Blue Awards More than \$300,000 to Support YMCA's Safety Around Water Programs Across Florida

On July 27, 2017, Doug Bartel, Senior Director of External Relations for Florida Blue, also a YMCA Board Member, stood at the podium at the Weston YMCA pool deck surrounded by swimming children and proudly announced a donation of over \$300,000 that will provide free swim lessons and mobile aquatics programs for over 5,000 children and families. The YMCA of South Florida, YMCA of South Palm Beach County and YMCA of Florida's First Coast will each benefit with a \$100,000 grant.

Sheryl Woods, CEO & President, YMCA of South Florida noted that while they teach 30,000 lessons in their pools, and the Mobile Aquatics unit reaches another 600, for all who signed up, there are probably ten times more who don't know how to swim. Sheryl stated, "ALL children should be given the opportunity to learn how to swim."

Weston Mayor Daniel Stermer thanked all involved in this critical cause, noting the extensive access to waterbodies and pools within south Florida.



Mayor Daniel J. Stermer