



IMPACT REPORT

2024

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE INCEPTION IN 2021

- Received official letter from IRS for non-profit 501(c)(3) status March of 2022.
- Formed partnership with Brookside Pool offering lessons each summer at this location.
- Awarded The Greenville Community Hero Award 2021 by the Greenville News and Greenville Federal Credit Union.
- As of 2022 providing affordable swim lessons to over 1,500 adults and counting, including upwards of 95% women since inception.
- Conducting outreach programs to address barriers to water safety education, such as fear and financial constraints.
- Formed partnerships with the Greenville YMCA's offering our Aqua Angels Swim lessons at the Eastside Family YMCA and Caine Halter YMCA.
- Building a supportive network of volunteers, instructors, and community partners committed to our mission.
- Formed partnership with Crunch Fitness Greenville, offering lessons indoor for Fall, Winter and Spring sessions.
- Aqua Angels has been featured on WYFF News Channel 4 in summer 2021, 2022 and 2023 (most recently was the exclusive story for their new show 4 The Record).
- Formed partnership with Greenville Splash & Upstate Splash Charity.
- Formed partnership with the American Red Cross to further promote health and wellness through aquatic activities and American Red Cross courses, contributing to a healthier and more confident community. Aqua Angels was chosen for the Red Cross's feature for Water Safety Month in 2022.
- Fall of 2023 Aqua Angels was recognized nationally by the American Red Cross and was featured in their social media campaign called "Stories that Inspire".
- The Red Cross acknowledgment caught the attention of the local news and we were featured on WYFF4 in December of 2023.
- Winter of 2023 Aqua Angels was featured nationally by the American Red Cross on all of their social media platforms.
- 2023 had over 1000 registrations to our programming over the full 12 months and taught upwards of 700 swim lessons participants.
- Went from 1 location (seasonal) to 5 locations offering programming year round.
- Formed new partnerships with 2 local YMCA's, Greenville County Aquatics & Crunch Fitness.
- Spring 2024 we had over 250 registrants for our spring programming offering lessons at 4 different locations.
- Featured on WYFF News Channel Four for in May, June, July & August 2024.
- Featured on FOX Carolina News in June 2024.
- 500+ registrants for the 2024 year.
- Hosted Summer Water Safety Day in partnership with Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., provided free swimming lesson, swimsuits, swim caps & goggles and CPR course for 50+ children and adults in 2024.

MISSION

Our mission is to provide affordable and accessible swim lessons and lifesaving certifications for adult communities in upstate South Carolina, fostering confidence, empowerment, and a lifelong love for aquatic activities

VISION

Our vision is to help people from all communities overcome fears and anxieties about entering bodies of water and jumping into the deep water. Aqua Angels nonprofit envisions a community where water safety is accessible to everyone, empowering individuals to overcome fears and enjoy the many physical and mental health benefits of swimming.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Spring swim lessons
- Summer swim lessons
- Fall swim lessons
- Swimming lessons and American Red Cross 1st responder certifications

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Greenville Community Hero Award Recipient

As 2024 comes to a close, I find myself reflecting on the incredible journey Aqua Angels has taken this year — **a year filled with achievements, challenges, growth, and so much gratitude.**

At the start of 2024, Aqua Angels operated seasonally at just **one location.** Today, we are proud to say we've expanded to **five locations** offering programming **year-round** thanks to our partnerships with **two local YMCA branches, the Greenville County Aquatic Complex,** and our newest collaboration with **Crunch Fitness.** These partnerships have allowed us to offer swim lessons throughout the spring, summer, and fall, increasing accessibility to water safety for so many in our community.

Over the course of this year, we had **500+ participants** register for swim lessons—a number that highlights the overwhelming need for our programming and the trust families have placed in Aqua Angels.

In 2024, our work was recognized across the community. Aqua Angels was featured more than **five times on WYFF News Channel 4,** where we shed light on the tragic losses of community members caused by drowning while also sharing the impact of our mission. We were also featured on **Fox Carolina News** in June, further raising awareness about water safety and our programs.

One of my favorite moments this year was hosting our **Water Safety Day** in partnership with **Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc for their SWIM 1922.** Together, we provided free swim lessons, **swimsuits, swim caps, goggles, and CPR courses** to more than **50 children and adults.** Seeing the smiles and confidence grow in the participants reminded us why we do this work.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without the dedication and generosity of so many. I want to give a heartfelt shout out to the **15+ volunteer instructors** who committed their time, energy, and passion to helping us build this program. Your impact has stretched across the city and Upstate South Carolina, and we are forever grateful. To our **board members, donors, and sponsors** — thank you for believing in our mission and helping us carry out this life-changing work.

As I look ahead to 2025, I do so with excitement and anticipation for what's to come. God has truly had His hand on Aqua Angels, and I am constantly reminded of His blessings over this organization. Together, we are building safer communities, instilling confidence, and breaking barriers to water safety one lesson at a time.

Thank you for being a part of this journey. Let's keep making waves in 2025.

With gratitude,

REBEKAH

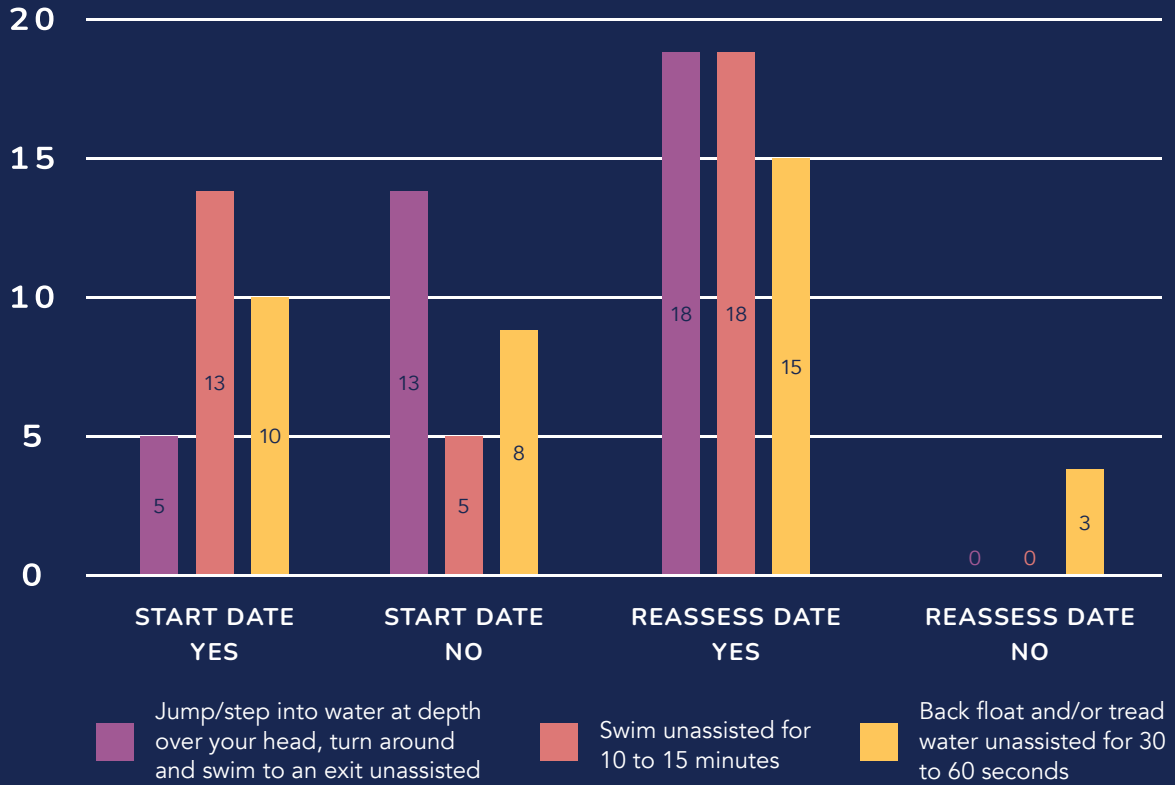
Executive Director & Founder, Aqua Angels



COMMUNITY IMPACT

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS SERVED
500+

2 AMERICAN RED CROSS CPR COURSES SERVING
100+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS



I came into Aqua Angels in the spring of 2024 nervous. I had enough skill to not drown in a local pool, but my fear and anxiety around swimming successfully in larger or deeper bodies of water was very high. My water fear began after a beach incident when I was a child. Aqua Angels warmly welcome me and my insecurity surrounding water with light, love, and knowledge. I didn't realize having a basic knowledge of swim safety was so important to alleviate my fears. I also found comfort in being able to have a group of adults who all shared a common goal, learning to swim. The cherry on top being that most of my classmates looked like me. The level of support received as I gained confidence in the water continued to grow both from my classmates and the amazing instructors that Aqua Angels have been blessed with. One of my fondest memories of class is when it was time to jump into the deep end and I was paralyzed with fear. Rebekah and a few other instructors as well as a couple of my classmates waited patiently for me to get over my internal battle and still support me as I jumped in and safely came back up! I'll be forever grateful that I was able to break the mental hurdle of fear and anxiety that I've held onto for over 20+ years. The beauty in Aqua Angels is that I can now swim, but I find myself excited to sign up for classes again and again because the camaraderie and community built there is an environment I will continuously put myself in intentionally. I find myself recommending their seasonal and private lessons offered to both adults and children who's paths I cross professionally and within my community.

DR. QUINNESHA WINTERS



THANK YOU TO OUR...

25 VOLUNTEERS

SWIM INSTRUCTORS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DONORS, PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

Crunch Fitness Greenville - Year round swimming lessons

American Red Cross - Water safety & life saving courses

Greenville YMCA - Spring & Fall swimming lessons

Greenville County Aquatics

Upstate Splash - Spring swimming lessons program

Greenville Splash - Spring swimming lessons program

Brookside Pool

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc - Summer Swim 1922 Water Safety Day

CHALLENGES

- Soliciting annual donors.
- Receiving grants applied for.

Steps Taken to Address Challenges: Hired consulting firm to assist in the growth, structure and grant writing process for the organization.

Lessons Learned for Future Growth: Learned about the dynamics of grant readers and local grants so that in the future we present to the specifics of the decision makers

2025 GOALS

- Achieve **1,000 swim lesson registrations** across all locations.
- Raise **\$50,000 in donations and fundraising** to support program growth and accessibility.
- **Expand program reach** by securing additional partnerships and sponsors.

New Initiatives or Programs Planned: Aqua Academy Spring 2025 - A scholarship program offering free swim lessons for 10 children with special needs and 50 adults who otherwise lack access to water safety education. Reduce barriers to water safety education for under served families, particularly children with special needs and adults.

Projected Impact Goals: Aqua Academy Spring 2025 offering FREE swimming lessons for 10 children with special needs and 50 adults. Create an affordable pathway for participants to gain life-saving swimming skills, boosting confidence and safety in and around water.

CALL TO ACTION

Support our mission by donating through our website, volunteering as an instructor, or helping us secure resources by reaching out to your network for donations. Additionally, connect us with decision-makers in your community to amplify our message and expand our reach.



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