

A Call to Action and Guide for Community Leaders

Help Prevent Child Drownings in Your Community

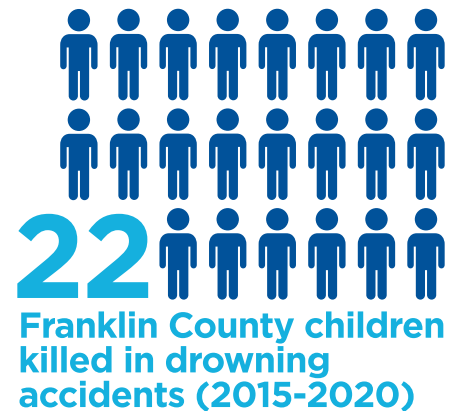


Did you know...

In the past 5 years*:

- **22 children** who were residents of Franklin County were killed in drowning accidents.
- **55%** of the children who died by drowning were Black children.
- **45%** of children killed in drowning accidents were immigrant children or children of immigrant parents.
- **36%** of the children who died from drowning were children of immigrants from African Nations.
- Some of these children drowned in swimming pools, but 70% of the immigrant children who drowned, drowned in open water locations such as retention ponds, rivers and lakes.

Drownings claim the lives of children in your community!



You can help prevent drownings in your community.

Increase community awareness

- Share information & data with faith and community leaders and the business community.
- Create and share short video messages in different languages.

Educate parents & children

- Ponds in their apartment or residential areas are dangerous areas to play.
- Children should always be supervised when near water.

Host events for children on the topic of water safety!

- Reach out to your local Goldfish Swim School for their free Community W.A.T.E.R. Safety Program.

Encourage parents and children to take water survival or swim lessons

- Consider sponsoring or hosting an event teaching water survival and self-rescue.
- Host a community CPR training event.
- Share signup information for Columbus Recreation and Parks' "Learn to Swim" classes for all ages.

Advocate!

- Use your leadership in the community to encourage property managers to make physical changes near community ponds & pools:
 - Locked fencing around pools.
 - Vegetation that prevents entry to ponds.
 - Emergency rescue equipment stations & emergency call boxes at the water's edge (ponds & pools).
 - Signs in multiple languages and/or photographic signs to keep out of the water.
 - Enforcement of rules about playing in or near the water.
- Reach out to local policymakers about the water safety concerns in your communities.

If you have questions about this report, contact:

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For information on printed pool safety materials, swim lessons, pool operations, or lifeguarding certification, contact:

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*Notes: Data Source (Franklin County Child Fatality Review); Years (2015-2020 - to date); "Child" is anyone under the age of 18.