

Potomac Valley Swimming Diversity and Inclusion Chair's Report – 2018

Prepared by Rob Green

- **Attended USA Swimming Convention in Dallas, TX**
 - Met with other D&I Chairs from Western, Central, Southern, and Eastern Zones to discuss D&I issues and successful initiatives.
 - Discussed implementation of USA Swimming's new flex membership
 - New guidelines and recommendations for outreach membership
- **Hosted Officials workshop at the 32nd Black History Swim Meet**
 - Organized a Dinner and Workshop for officials that participated in the Black History Swim Meet.
 - Guest speakers Cullen Jones and Cecil Gordon shared their experiences at the Olympic Games with guests
- **Published quarterly Diversity & Inclusion Newsletter**
 - The D&I newsletter continues to be the main source of D&I information that goes out to clubs. Special thanks to Terri Marlin and Tim Husson for helping to spread the word via Flash Mail and website updates.
- **Attended USA Swimming D&I and Safe Sport Workshop in Alexandria, VA**
 - Attended a workshop for Eastern Zone D&I Chairs, Safe Sport Chairs, and General Chairs on improving Board functionality, developing committees, and brain storming new ideas to better serve PVS members.
- **Attended Diversity in Aquatics Convention in Miami, FL**
 - Diversity in Aquatics is a non-profit advocacy group that seeks to raise awareness of aquatic opportunities to underrepresented groups.
 - DIA's CEO is former PVS Diversity and Inclusion Chair, Eastern Zone Diversity and Inclusion Chair, and NCAP coach Miriam Lynch.
 - The convention featured a live demonstration of a Water Safety and Education Day program, Adult Learn to Swim Programs, Social Media Seminar, Multi Sectional Collaborations and Partnerships, and a seminar on Unpacking Racism.
 - Received an award for Outstanding Volunteer Service
- **Awarded first Diversity and Outreach grant recipient to first year club MDNA**
 - First year club Manta Dive N' Aquatics (MDNA) and Head Coach Chris Manning is the recipient of the 2018 Spring Diversity and Outreach Grant Award.
 - Chris' program will address the need of youth learn to swim in the Prince George's County Community, specifically for lower income minority families who do not have access to extra curricular activities.
 - Participants will benefit from this program by learning life saving swimming skills, gaining exposure to a new sport, working with youth who are currently competitive swimmers to mentor them in the water and outside of the pool.
 - This program will grant participants access to participate in community service activities at least once a month. This will help build relationships in the community and help motivate them to give back to others in their future.
- **Organized PVS Diversity and Inclusion Travel Team**

- The 16th Annual Black Heritage Swim Meet in Cary, NC Memorial Day weekend is part of USA Swimming's series of [Multi-Cultural Meets](#)
- Team DMV has over 120 PVS athletes representing 14 different clubs for 2018
- **PVS sends 6 athletes and 2 coaches to the National Diversity Select Camp in Colorado Springs**
 - Each May, USA Swimming hosts a 3 day Select Camp for athletes and coaches representing diverse and multicultural backgrounds.
 - **Athletes**
 - Janika Perezous (SNOW)
 - Tia Thomas (RMSC)
 - Kyle Lawson (NCAP)
 - Noah Rutberg (NCAP)
 - Sean Santos (RMSC)
 - Thomas Soh (MOON)
 - **Coaches**
 - Jessica Mack (NCAP)
 - Marye Carter (NCAP)
- **PVS Diversity and Inclusion College Knowledge Fair**
 - Saturday, May 12th is a free College Fair with representatives from local collegiate swimming programs to answer questions and give advice to PVS athletes and parents about the college application process, recruitment, and the collegiate student athlete experience.
 - Saturday, May 12 at Banneker Recreation Center | 2500 Georgia Avenue, Washington, DC, 12:00-2:00 PM