



# Aquatic Safety Pledge for CEOs and CVOs

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## Aquatic Safety Pledge

The Anytown YMCA recognizes the YMCA's long national history of leadership in aquatics programming and safety. The Anytown YMCA also understands its role as a leader in the community and in providing facilities and programs that offer opportunities for building strong kids, strong families and a strong community in a safe environment.

It is because of this history and commitment to YMCA mission and principles that the Anytown YMCA commits to providing a high level of aquatic safety. The Anytown YMCA further commits to the following practices in order to emphasize aquatic safety:

1. Provide the necessary leadership and resources to be recognized as an Accredited YMCA through the Ready Guard Program
2. Implement the Ready Guard Program including:
  - A system of regular lifeguard observation as outlined in the program
  - Completing an assessment on an annual basis
  - Maintaining the program's supervision and credential standards
  - Practicing a high level of emergency preparedness
  - Providing monthly in-service training
  - Documenting all training and safety procedures as outlined in the program
  - Maintaining the equipment standards of the program
  - Providing aquatic leadership that meets the credential standards of the program
3. Provide Lifeguards that are trained to:
  - Constantly scan the bottom and surface of the pool
  - Recognize swimmers in distress within 10 seconds
  - Provide any assistance to swimmers in distress within 10 seconds
  - Remain focused on a primary responsibility of protecting lives
  - Always be recognizable by wearing a lifeguard shirt while on duty
  - Always be prepared by wearing a bathing suit while on duty
  - Always wear a rescue tube and whistle while on duty
  - Always carry a resuscitation mask and gloves, ready for use, while on duty
  - Always wear hats, sun glasses and protective equipment in outdoor venues
  - Be positioned in an elevated lifeguard chair or on deck and at the pool's edge
  - Be aware of visibility issues and rotate positions accordingly
  - Rotate and take breaks according to YMCA of the USA guidelines
  - Follow the YMCA's Zone Coverage Plan
  - Be prepared for aquatic emergencies
  - Enforce the policies, procedures and practices of the YMCA
  - Other locally defined actions

## YMCA LIFEGUARD RESCUE READY PROGRAM

4. Maintain appropriate lifeguard to swimmer ratios at all times
5. Provide facilities that meet YMCA of the USA guidelines
6. Provide facilities with excellent water quality that are clean and well maintained
7. Ensure that all swimmers' abilities are evaluated before entering the pool
8. Communicate this commitment to the community by displaying the "Our Promise" poster prominently in the YMCA
9. Other locally defined actions

The Anytown YMCA voluntarily adopts and pledges its commitment to the procedures and practices outlined in this statement at the meeting of the Board of Directors as dated below.

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Chief Volunteer Officer

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Date

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Chief Executive Officer

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Date