

## ASSA FORMS FOUNDATION TO DEAL WITH COMMUNITY SWIMMING ISSUES

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A growing need to provide additional focus on vital community issues around the teaching of swimming and water safety has led to the formation of the Australian Swim Schools Foundation Ltd (ASSF).

Facilitated by the Australian Swim Schools Association (ASSA), the ASSF's core objectives centre around:

1. Promoting water safety skill development, including drowning prevention education,
2. Facilitating access to quality swimming and water safety lessons for people with disability and other population segments with special needs, and
3. Attacking community health concerns, such as obesity, by enhancing swimming as a lifelong activity.

The Foundation's inaugural Honorary Directors are Julia Ham, Wayne Pollock, Bev Christmass and Bruce Sullivan.

Explaining the move, ASSA Chief Executive and ASSF Honorary Secretary Ross Gage, advised "the Australian Swim Schools Foundation seeks to provide new avenues to address these community concerns – with outcomes benefiting individuals, families and the nation as a whole."

While the Foundation enjoys not-for-profit status, it is currently in the process of applying to be a registered charity.

ASSA President David Urquhart added that "Association will be able to work collaboratively with the Foundation to ensure mutual objectives are better achieved.

"A flow on benefit will go to ASSA Partners such as the Little Heroes Foundation and Samuel Morris Foundation."