



**VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR  
COMPETITIVE SWIMMING,  
INC.**

**HOPEWELL RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT**

*Local Make A Splash Partners*



[www.swimvacs.org](http://www.swimvacs.org)

[www.swimfoundation.org](http://www.swimfoundation.org)

[http://www.hopewellva.gov/data/publish/parks\\_recreation\\_home.shtml](http://www.hopewellva.gov/data/publish/parks_recreation_home.shtml)



Photos taken from Make a  
Splash website



**The USA Swimming Foundation commissioned a national research study and found that:**

- ❑ In ethnically-diverse communities, the youth drowning rate is more than double the national average,
- ❑ Nearly six out of 10 African American and Hispanic/Latino children are unable to swim, nearly twice as many as their Caucasian counterparts,
- ❑ While about 1/3 of white children from non-swimming families go on to learn to swim, less than 1/10 of children in non-swimming African American families do,
  - ❑ Children from non-swimming households are eight times more likely to be at-risk of drowning.

**In response, USA Swimming Foundation activated the Make A Splash Local Partner Program.**

- The foundation's mission is that of educating parents and saving lives by joining forces with grassroots learn-to-swim programs.

- The program focuses on breaking the cycle of non-swimming families in diverse communities.
- Recently, VACS and the Hopewell Recreation Department-HCC were approved as a local Make A Splash partner.
- Our first learn-to-swim project is planned for the spring of 2010 and will be offered to approximately 100 Hopewell children.

To learn more about this project, to sponsor a swimmer, or to make a donation contact:

Brad Flynn, Assistant Aquatics Superintendent, HCC at (804) 541-2353

Jamie Greenwood, VACS Head Coach at (804) 937-5571