



Welcome to The Swim Center!

My name is Jennifer Hill, and I am the Founder /Director of The Swim Center. I'd like to share my story with you.

In 1993, I worked as a swim instructor for Clayton County Parks and Recreation. After 2 years of working for Clayton County, I decided to take my experience and build a better learn-to-swim program. The Swim Center began in my dad's backyard pool in 1995.

With a handful of students the first year, I was able to provide instruction as an American Red Cross swim instructor. I kept the classes small so that each child would be able to get the quality instruction and attention they needed to become a strong swimmer. I also understood that summers are busy, so I offered flexible class schedules so that families were not locked into a long term commitment. Students were able to take classes based on their abilities and time frame.

The Swim Center grew by word of mouth. At the time, I was a full-time high school teacher and did not have the time to market my swim program. Instead, the families who had taken classes with me over the summer months became my best advertisers and promoters!

By 2003, I was also the head coach of the Forest Park High School swim team. Several of the swimmers on the team asked if they could help teach swim lessons over the summer months. As the demand for swim lessons increased, so did my need for instructors. To take on assistants and train them to be instructors was one of the best things I ever did! In fact one of my first assistants, Ms. Mary Macaranas, is still teaching swim lessons at The Swim Center part-time while balancing a full-time career!

The program and the participants continued to grow. In 2006, we moved to a new location in what now is called "the home pool." At the new location, I was able to offer multiple classes during the same time frame and expand our daily hours. With the growth to the program, scheduling was tricky. I updated to online scheduling in 2010.

In 2011, Barrington Academy was added as another location during the summer months. By partnering with local child care centers, The Swim Center was able to give more children life saving skills by learning to swim. But, I was still challenged with providing a year round program. The answer came in January of 2012 with a partnership with several hotels in the area that had indoor pools. The Swim Center is also the contractor providing swim lessons through Clayton County Parks and Rec at Steve Lundquist Aquatic Center and Virginian Burton Grey.

As it has grown, I have seen my role in the program change. I am now more of a Principal in the school, making sure the instructors have what they need. I hand pick and train each instructor to ensure we are all delivering a comparable experience. Supervising the instructors and handling all the administrative tasks doesn't leave me much time to teach anymore, but all of our instructors are REALLY good!

My goals and ambitions are to one day work in an indoor swimming complex. I would love to be able to offer swimming lessons on a larger scale, incorporate more programs for competitive swim teams and offer therapeutic programs for seniors and those with disabilities.

If you are new to my program, I welcome you. Over the years, I have met so many families and have become very attached to the kids and the parents. When I see so many families, year after year, I can't help but to get to know the families. They become such a part of my life. This program is my baby and my passion. I welcome you to contact me any time with any questions or concerns you might have.

God Bless!