

In support of Osborn Aquatic Center in Corvallis, OR

I fully support the Osborn Aquatic Center to receive funding to fix the roof to be able to be used again. It is a gap in our community not to have a pool. My family and I personally benefited from having this pool available in the following ways:

- **Swimming is a life skill and being comfortable in the pool is a necessity of life.**
  - I grew up without this since I grew up in a poor neighborhood without access to swimming pools or lessons. I grew up deathly afraid of water and it impacted on what I was able to do
  - My children all benefited from swimming lessons, and it was so great to see them frolicking in the pool, going to the beach, and participating in aquatic exercises.
- **Aquatic Center as a community resource**
  - The Aquatic Center function rooms are used for classes, meetings, and affordable spaces for events. Without this, classes and meetings are having to struggle to compete for affordable spaces
  - Master swimming and adult swim lessons are available for community members.
  - Lap swimming for community members
  - Aquatic classes for adults
  - My daughter had ballet lessons in the function rooms, and we held her birthday party for her pre-school at the pool. Without the pool, we would struggle to entertain 20 3-year-olds and their parents in a safe manner. I benefited from the adult swim lessons and now can do laps in the pool. My spouse uses early morning lap swimming
- **Osborn Aquatic for those on Medigap AARP/UHC**
  - Osborn Aquatic Center is listed as one of the athletic centers that the AARP/United Healthcare Medicare Supplemental Insurance will pay for to keep their clients healthy. Aquatic exercise is the perfect exercise for older people. Without this option, there is no swimming options available, only weight training and aerobic exercise.

In addition, the aquatic teams provide children and teens with a place to excel and thrive in a sport that focuses on both team and individual prowess. Without this, the children are stuck with the usual team sports or else pay for expensive elite training. Although my children did not participate in the aquatic teams, I loved that this option was open to them.

Please consider the Osborn Aquatic Center for financial support.

Sincerely,

Carole Petersen  
Resident of Benton County