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**Subject:** FW: Drop-In Class size

Dear Ms. Fisher,

The AQUAPLEX facility is a gold mine of healthy activities for the local population. The variety of offerings for people at all levels is astounding. The AQUAPLEX in itself is well staffed with friendly people, aesthetically designed, and in excellent condition.

I participate in as many functions as I can and as of late took advantage of beginning Yoga on Wednesdays and the Cycle class on Thursday evenings. I participate in these classes because I was invited and encouraged by staff to participate. With my background in small business and education I have some suggestions for your review. My knowledge of the inner workings of the AQUAPLEX itself is limited to my own personal experiences and encounters with the facility and staff as a customer. Recently there was some press regarding the City Council's review of the AQUAPLEX budget and funding. Are attendance numbers and income relative to the city when they consider the assets of the facility? If so I have a couple ideas that are "entry level" in nature.

Rather than spell it all out here, I would like to meet with your department or just yourself. My thoughts are directly related to increasing the drop-in attendance of the cycle class, which if effective could be used to increase attendance in other classes with low attendance. I may discover through your feedback that my ideas have already been tried. If participation numbers and the revenue they generate are not critical, well then the status quo can prevail. I really like the facility. My selfish side doesn't want anyone to know what a great place it is, but when there are several people in the cycle class the energy level is through the roof and makes for an incredible experience; especially for someone who a year ago got exercise only when digging through the couch cushions for the TV remote (me).

This staff story is too long to put on the feedback cards:

Last week when I came into the facility I saw the kids at the climbing wall as usual. I have yet to try that activity until they build a climbing route made of cinder blocks for holds and call it Fat Man's Loop. The employee who encouraged me to sign up for the cycle class was working the climbing area that afternoon (Chris). Sometime later I was in the locker room getting my headphones from my locker and 3 or 4 kids were in there changing or whatever and talking about the climbing wall. The gist of their conversation was one kid saying to another kid (about 10 years old) "I can't believe you finally did it. Wow, you climbed all the way to the top" etc. Then the kid told his friends "I couldn't do it until that guy who works here kept telling me I could make it and I wouldn't fall. He kept saying keep going and all I thought was I should do this. It was awesome, next time I'm trying the harder one!"

Basically what the kids were conversing about was that it was the staff member working with them that gave the one child enough confidence and security to try something he was afraid of. I know Chris will never get to hear their little chatter so I thought I'd relay the story. Chris changed a little part of some kids life and he doesn't even know it.

Thank you for putting up with me.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell Mann

*PONDEROSA PET CREMATORY*

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