CITY OF KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON
500 KLAMATH AVENUE – P.O. BOX 237
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON 97601

Sister City
ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2022

Ella Redkey Pool Contact: Brielle George
bgeorge@klamathfalls.city
Sky Lakes Contact: Tom Hottman
Thomas.hottman@skylakes.org

SKY LAKES MEDICAL CENTER REJUVENATES THE *EVERYONE SWIMS* PROGRAM AT ELLA REDKEY POOL

ALL THIRD GRADERS THROUGHOUT KLAMATH COUNTY WILL RECEIVE FREE, WATER SAFETY EDUCATION & LIFE-SAVING SWIM LESSONS THIS SPRING

Klamath Falls, OR – Through a partnership between Sky Lakes Medical Center and the City of Klamath Falls, the *Everyone Swims* program makes a triumphant return to Ella Redkey Pool this spring.

The *Everyone Swims* program provides ALL third graders in Klamath County the opportunity to participate in a week of FREE swim lessons. Participants receive individualized instruction, develop skills, build confidence, and learn life-saving skills, all while having fun with their peers in the water.

"A single session of swim lessons can drastically change a child's outlook on swimming and provide a healthy and happy relationship with the water from an early age," said Ella Redkey Pool Supervisor Brielle George.

Drowning is one of the most common causes of accidental death in children, being able to swim is a life-saving skill.

George stated, "This essential program is made possible by the enormous generosity of the Sky Lakes Medical Center! We are thrilled to bring *Everyone Swims* back to the community this spring."

"All of us at Sky Lakes are proud of our community and want to partner with others seeking to help make it healthier," stated Tom Hottman, spokesman for Sky Lakes Medical Center. "This program will teach area third-graders how to swim and will provide opportunities for them to be more physically active throughout their lifetime."

Learning to swim promotes health and fitness from an early age. Water activity gets the heart pumping and builds endurance; it increases strength and flexibility while improving balance and posture. Swimming is also a great stress-reliever, the buoyancy of the water offers relaxation and the exercise performed improves overall mood. Swimming is also social, giving many opportunities to interact, play, and exercise with peers. Most importantly, the ability to swim can be life-saving.

For more information on the *Everyone Swims* program please visit, ellaredkeypool.com or email ellaredkeypool@klamathfalls.city.

Everyone Swims is subject to change dependent on Covid-19 precaution requirements and recommendations.

Sky Lakes Medical Center Sky Lakes Medical Center is a not-for-profit, community-owned, internationally accredited acute-care teaching hospital dedicated to the people it serves. It is licensed for 176 beds and offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient services, a home health agency, a primary care clinic, and a variety of specialty physician clinics. The Sky Lakes family also includes the award-winning Sky Lakes Cancer Treatment Center and Center for Total Joint and Spine Care, and the Cascades East Family Medicine Residency and clinic. Sky Lakes is proud to be help make our community a healthier place to live through partnerships, investments and leadership.

The City of Klamath Falls is a united community with healthy, welcoming neighborhoods where citizens aspire to live, thrive and enjoy the quality of life afforded by our surroundings, opportunities and values.

Ella Redkey Pool provides a welcoming public aquatic facility that focuses on educating all ages in the lifelong skills of water safety, improving community health, and providing recreational and competitive sport opportunities for people of all ages. Ella Redkey Pool works to foster positive and lifelong experiences with aquatic environments.