by Stephanie Mills

Rachel Griffiths grew up in the aquatics industry: swimming, competitive diving and teaching swim lessons — all stemming from the career of her father, Dr. Tom Griffiths.

Now the primary author of the Complete Swimming Pool Reference, Third Edition, Griffiths also is active on other fronts. She’s communication director at the Aquatic Safety Research Group and president/founder of the Note & Float Life Jacket Fund, which gives facilities life jackets to strap on their non-swimmers.

The ASRG started the Note & Float Campaign in 2008 to prevent drowning, but the cost of the needed life jackets kept facilities from joining.

“I thought it would be a good idea to bridge that gap,” Griffiths says. “We donate life jackets to swimming pools that want to adopt the Note & Float program, but don’t have the funds or budgeting to do so.”

During 2014, the fund’s first year, three facilities — in Phoenix; East Lansing, Mich.; and Amarillo, Texas — were outfitted with life jackets through sponsorships and donations.

Soon, she’ll be Dr. Griffiths. She’s pursuing her doctorate in public health.