In Gratitude

Once again, it’s been an amazing year! Looking over the statistics from the past ten years, AdVenture’s participation numbers have more than doubled (5,379 more people this year than ten years ago) we offered over twice as many programs as we did 10 years ago (in fact, 266 more programs) and our scholarship allocation tripled in the past ten years (we provided $15,150 more in scholarship assistance)! This past fiscal year, AdVenture offered 490 programs. Which means, some days we offer three or four different programs a day! Obviously, we owe this growth to the wonderful staff, volunteers, businesses, partners, donors and participants. It’s a group effort to make this program so special and fulfilling. Last year, almost all of our programs were full with a waiting list so we did our best to try to add more programs. Our goal with adding more programs is to never sacrifice the quality of the programs.

We are extremely proud of the AdVenture program and the difference it makes for the participants. We routinely get stopped by families of participants who tell us how much the AdVenture program means to them. Without our amazing AdVenture staff, volunteers and partners, this would not happen. We want to thank all of our staff and volunteers for working countless weekends and evenings so they can bring a little AdVenture into the lives of others!

Respectfully,

Emily Kovarik & Sonya Buchholz
HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2019

- A total of $18,048.78 was donated to the AdVenture program in 2019.
  * Idaho Power and their employees donated $795.60 to the scholarship program,
  * $2,100 was donated by individuals or a trust,
  * $8,100 was donated to the Idaho Youth Adaptive Sports Camp,
  * $4,428.18 was raised during the ChairHoops Wheelchair Basketball Tournament,
  * $2,625 was raised during the Moonlight Golf Tournament.
- In the past 20 years, over $131,500 has been raised through our fundraisers.
- We offered a record high of 490 different programs.
- Cumulatively in 2019, 75 area businesses donated prizes for the two AdVenture fundraisers and the AdVenture Holiday Party. The donations have a value of over $6,500.
- In 2019, $19,293.96 was spent on scholarships for adults with disabilities so they could afford to participate in recreation. This amount grows each year as more and more people participate with AdVenture!
- AdVenture and the Boise Bomber Wheelchair Rugby team co-hosted a food and toy drive during the holiday season. The food drive brought in more than 250 pounds of food and three turkeys for the Boise Rescue Mission. The toy drive brought in over four large boxes of toys that went to the Toys for Tots program.

“We’ve lived in many different places and our daughter has done many adaptive programs in other cities. My wife and I are very impressed with your (AdVenture) program and all of the opportunities it offers.”

- Parent of a young adult participant

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Scholarship assistance is available for qualified youth, adults with disabilities and seniors so they can participate in Boise Parks and Recreation’s programs at a discounted rate. Participants apply for a scholarship on an annual basis and adults with disabilities are awarded $250/year to help cover the costs of programs. Based upon need, scholarships cover 25-75% of the program cost. Undoubtedly, with the rise in participation, the need for scholarships rises as well. In 2013, the Mayor and Council allocated $10,000/year to go to AdVenture scholarships. Any money in excess of that comes from donations or monies raised during the two AdVenture fundraisers. In Fiscal Year 2019, the scholarship allocations for AdVenture reached an all time high of $19,293.96.

Over the years, this program has helped hundreds of participants with disabilities. The program is so important because many people who receive a scholarship, would not be able to participate in these programs without the help of their scholarship.

“Thank you so much! My son had an AWESOME time at the program. I remember how much he resisted trying anything new with AdVenture. You, your program and your crew are a Godsend for us...”

- Parent of an AdVenture Participant
UNIQUE PROGRAMS OFFERED TO GROUPS

On any given Friday during the school year, there is a little more excitement in the air for the AdVenture program. For over 20 years, AdVenture has been working with outside organizations who provide services for people with disabilities and Special Education Classes to offer unique recreation experiences for their groups. However, recently the amount of classes offered has exploded. Offered at a very minimal cost, AdVenture provides one-two hour classes for groups including pottery, dance, yoga, drumming, disc golf, bike rides, snowshoeing and more. Special Education Teachers have mentioned how much they enjoy bringing their students to programs so their students are aware of what is available for them. For several of the groups, teachers ask that we also provide a job training/volunteer time for their students to learn practical job training experiences. This past fall, 44 classes were provided for different groups which equates to approximately 450 people with disabilities. Additionally, AdVenture held a Winter Dance for Teens with disabilities from Boise and West Ada during the school day. That dance brought 108 very excited teens with disabilities.

VOLUNTEERING

Simply put, AdVenture would not function without volunteer support. We are grateful for our volunteers. While some volunteers are only with us for a day, others have been with us for 20+ years. In 2019, 216 volunteers donated a total of 3,001 hours for AdVenture. Using a figure from the Independent Sector hourly value of $21.10/hr volunteers donated $63,321 worth of services for AdVenture. The programs with the most volunteer support were:

- Idaho Youth Adaptive Sports Camp – 1,251 hours
- Classes (Fitness, Art, Dance, Music & Cooking) – 515 hours
- Water Sports (Rafting and Waterskiing) — 314 hours
- Adaptive Bike Rides — 287 hours
- Wheelchair Sports — 151 hours

Once again, Boise State University’s Service Learning program has been an invaluable partner to Boise Parks and Recreation’s programs. The Service Learning Program connects BSU classrooms with community organizations in order to enhance student learning through hands on experiences in the work place and encourage students to be active citizens in their communities. In 2019, 73 Service Learning Students from BSU collectively contributed 724 hours towards AdVenture programs.

2019 ADVENTURE PARTICIPATION VISITS: 9,843
MISSION STATEMENT

Boise Parks & Recreation’s AdVenture program is committed to providing quality sports, recreation and outdoor adventures for people of all abilities. By taking place in the most integrated setting, the AdVenture program shall promote self-confidence, wellness and physical fitness leading to a more independent lifestyle.

2019 DONATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

The following individuals and businesses made life better for people with disabilities by supporting the AdVenture program. Thanks!

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP: $300+
Blue Sky Bagels
Boise Green Bike
Elks Lodge 310
Pam & Randy Geile
Idaho Aviation Foundation and Idaho Aviation Community
Idaho Physical Medicine and Rehab
Idaho Power and Employees
Idaho River Sports
Idaho Urologic Institute
Meridian Speedway
Numotion
Old Chicago
Jacob VanHemelryck
Jeff Sparks
Shawn Stoddard
St. Luke’s Community Health Improvement Fund
Swire Coca Cola
Howard & Merridy Wallace

GOLD CONTINUED...
Russ Scheel
Samantha McQuillan Art
Jim & Mary Slater
Sawtooth Flying Service
SP Aircraft
The Springs
Dr. Bonnie-Kim Waite
Warm Springs Golf Course

GOLD SPONSORSHIP: $100-$299
Arnold Aviation
Bogus Basin Ski Resort
Boise Physical Medicine & Rehab Clinic
Boise State University Football Program
Haliman Brugger
Buchholz & Buchholz Nursery
Brundage Mountain Resort
Cactus Pete’s Resort Casino
Clarity Chiropractic
Collective Concepts
Corestrong
Joe Corlett
Flying Resort Ranches
Futures West
George’s Cycles
Grove Fitness Club & Spa
Grove Hotel
Idaho Hunter Education
Idaho Steelheads
Vic & Janine Jaro
John Davis
McCall Aviation
Prestige Water Sports

GOLD SPONSORSHIP: $100-$299

SILVER CONTINUED...
Panache Day Spa
Quail Hollow Golf Course
Roaring Springs Water Park
Rockies Diner
Shu’s Idaho Running Company
Signs Now
Starbucks
Ste. Chapelle Winery
Tavern at Bown Crossing
The Blue and Orange Store
The Cheesecake Factory
The Flicks
The Ram
Trader Joe’s
Treasure Valley Dairy Queen Stores
Tucano’s Brazilian Grill
Wahoaaz Family Fun Zone
Zoo Boise
Zurcher’s

IN-KIND DONORS
Aquarium of Boise
Blimpie
Bogus Basin Nordic Center
Boise Little Theatre
Boise State University – Athletic Ticket Office
Boise State University Game Center
Ceramica
Discovery Center of Idaho
Hop and Florence Points Memorial Sleigh Rides
Idaho Botanical Gardens
Old Idaho Penitentiary
Linder Farms
McU Sports
Wahoaaz Family Fun Zone
Warhawk Air Museum
World Center for Birds of Prey

PARTNERSHIPS
Boise Bike Week
Boise Bomber’s Wheelchair Rugby Team
Boise School District’s Special Education
Boise State University Service Learning Program
Higher Ground of Sun Valley
Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Idaho Hunter Education
National Federation of the Blind
Northwest Association for Blind Athletes
State of Idaho Department of Fish & Game
St. Luke’s Rehabilitation
The Arc, Inc.’s RAVE program
The VA Medical Center
US Army Corps of Engineers
West Ada School District’s Special Education

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