

CONTINUING TO EMPOWER THOSE WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED



2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



NW ASSOCIATION
FOR
BLIND
ATHLETES

ENRICHING LIVES. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the athletes we serve, our staff, and volunteers, thank you for being a part of our team. At Northwest Association for Blind Athletes (NWABA), we believe every individual deserves to be included, to build friendships and community, to improve physical and mental health, and to achieve goals in all other areas of life including school and employment.

Together, we achieved the following:

- Delivered 83 in-person and new virtual events to individuals with visual impairments across our community when they needed it most.
- Developed live audio-described programming, offered five days/week to support in-home programming for individuals of all ages.
- In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, launched our Video Resource Library to provide instructional videos to help parents/caregivers and educators to teach the basic adapted skills required for participation in a variety of sports and physical activities.
- Connected with athletes and families to share resources, make referrals, and be a source of support and encouragement.
- Launched a new three-year strategic plan and ten-year vision to serve more individuals, scale program services, and drive program innovation.

We are excited to share the following pages, which showcase NWABA's direct service work across Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana and feature the incredible individuals and families we are honored to work with. Together, we will continue to transform lives by improving the quality of life for individuals with visual impairments!

With sincere appreciation,



Billy Henry, Founder & CEO

A handwritten signature of Billy Henry in black ink.



Erik Selden, Board Chair

A handwritten signature of Erik Selden in black ink.

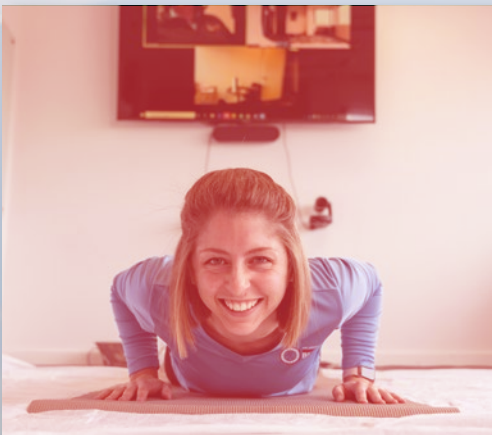


**We were able to deliver
1,800 program and
service interactions in FY20
because of your generosity.**

BILLY HENRY - FOUNDER & CEO

CONTENTS

PROGRAMS & SERVICES	GROWTH	COMMUNITY
Sports Outreach	4	Increasing Visibility 8
Camp Spark	5	Board of Directors 9
Sports Adaptations	6	Financial Transparency 10
Sports Teams & Scholarships	7	Get Involved 12
		Thank You 14
		Champions Legacy 15



OUR COVID RESPONSE

In the midst of 2020’s unforeseen challenges, we have been inspired by acts of resiliency, community-togetherness, and innovation! In March, following the arrival of COVID-19, NWABA quickly pivoted to a virtual format while maintaining outdoor and socially-distant activities (as permitted by state guidelines and with strict safety guidelines). Collectively, these efforts have allowed our program team to tangibly support participants as they navigate the current crisis.



SPORTS OUTREACH


402

Athletes
Served

1,441

Program & Service
Interactions

154

Volunteers
Engaged

216

Program
Hours

83

Events

111

Unique Cities
Across 6 Programs

1,004

Volunteer
Hours

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH SPORT

NWABA offered a diverse range of sports and physical activities for individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. We pivoted our programming due to the outbreak of Covid-19 and are proud of our accomplishments, which include:



Launched Virtual
Programming in April.



Hosted our first
snowshoe events for
NWABA starting in the
Southern Willamette
Valley.



Mailed more than
150 Adapted Physical
Education Packets to
children, youth, and
families across the four
states we serve in April.



Made more than 1,000
calls to athletes from
April – June, 2020 to
stay connected during
unprecedented times.



Whether an individual is learning to swim before their first steps, lost their vision later in life and desires a sense of community, or simply wants to experience the joy of the outdoors, NWABA believes people of all ages deserve the opportunity to participate and to achieve their goals.

CAMP SPARK



“Camp Spark allows me to try new things. Sports help me realize how good I am. Sports allow me to learn.

— Miracle, NWABA Athlete
Camp Spark Oregon 2019

FOSTERING COMMUNITY & CONFIDENCE

NWABA's Camp Spark is a comprehensive, overnight sports camp for youth who are blind or visually impaired. This unique model uses sports, physical activity, and orientation and mobility as a catalyst to encourage leadership, independence, advocacy, empowerment, daily living skills, and overall greater quality of life. NWABA hosts camp sessions in Oregon and Washington each summer and winter.

We are incredibly proud of Camp Spark and the accomplishments made in the summer of 2019 including:



Launching our Camp Spark program as our sixth official program in 2019.



Serving over 97 athletes from the states of Washington and Oregon.



Hosting staff from around the world including New York, Tennessee, Australia, and Japan.

97

Service Interactions

15

Volunteers Engaged

438

Program Hours

4

Camp Sessions



Did you know the cost of an individual to attend a week at summer camp is approximately \$3,200? NWABA appreciates the support from our program partners, corporate sponsors, and individual supporters to ensure there is no expense for campers or their families.

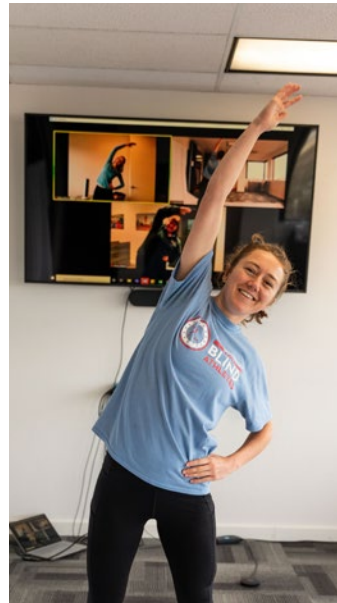
SPORTS ADAPTATIONS

REACHING INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND TEACHERS GLOBALLY

VIDEO RESOURCE LIBRARY

Our video and virtual platforms have been instrumental to continue connecting us together.

We provide an online video resource library of instructional strategy videos to educate and inform anyone who wants to learn to teach individuals with visual impairments in sport and physical activity. We currently reach viewers from across the country and even outside the US! We are actively seeking support to expand and enhance video resources for our athletes.

**156**

Equipment Lent

152Programs & Service
Interactions**18**P.E.
Consultation Hours**152**

Videos Watched

ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT LENDING LIBRARY

We believe that everyone deserves to play regardless of visual ability, physical location, or financial background. That is why we established the Adaptive Equipment Lending Library, which loans sports equipment to individuals, families, teachers, schools, and communities at no cost. No matter where individuals live, we can send equipment to urban and rural communities, encouraging further independence and physical activity.

P.E. CONSULTATIONS

Our highly educated and experienced staff travel across the region to work with teachers, IEP teams, administrators, and organizations to ensure sports and physical activities are accessible for people who are blind and visually impaired. Consultations are often as simple as adding a sound source to a target or goal, suggesting a higher contrast ball for visibility, or modifying rules to ensure everyone is included.



Curious about our Video Resources Library? Please visit www.nwaba.org/vrl and check out our videos.

SPORTS TEAMS & SCHOLARSHIPS



“

Thank you, NWABA, for your support. We could not have done this without NWABA's support to help foster confidence in Alaina.

— Angela, Alaina's mother

SPORTS TEAMS

NWABA supports various teams that compete in local, regional, and national competitions. These teams develop a sense of community, teamwork, and belonging that leads to a richer, fuller quality of life.

DRAGON BOATING: NWABA supports two dragon boating teams in Portland. Team Lethally Blind competes exclusively at the Portland Rose Festival every year. Team VIP practices multiple times per week and competes in races throughout the year.

GOALBALL: Goalball is a sport specifically designed for people who are visually impaired. NWABA supports 5 men's and women's teams, and co- hosts the South Sound Throw-down Goalball Tournament with athletes from across the U.S. and Canada.

SCHOLARSHIPS

To encourage every athlete in achieving their own goals, scholarships reduce financial barriers and empower individuals with the resources they need for special equipment and to participate in local, regional, national, or international competitions.

Through our impact, we have supported:

53

Individuals on Teams

10

Scholarship Applicants

60

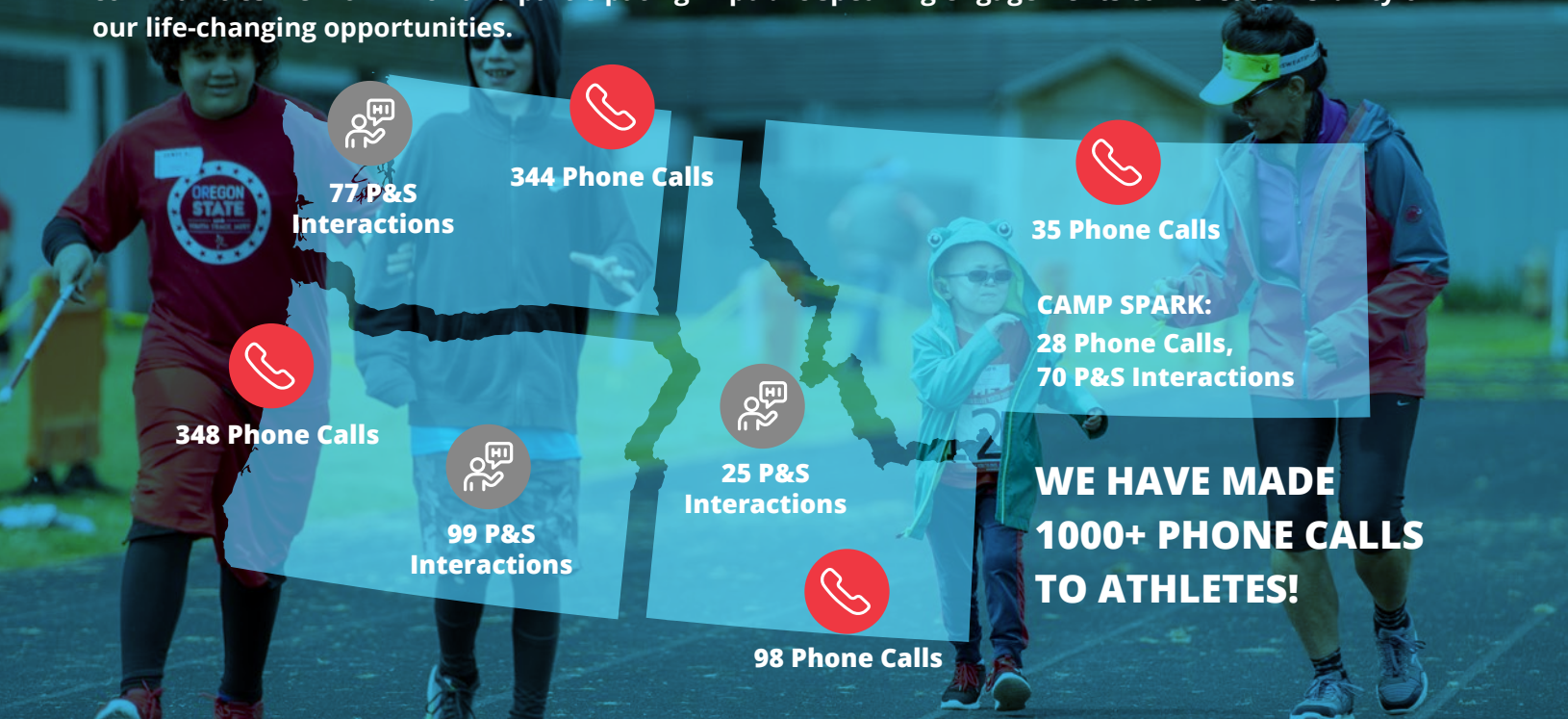
Program Hours

\$1,755

Amount Awarded

INCREASING VISIBILITY

We are intentional in our efforts to continue raising awareness across the region by being present in the communities we work with and participating in public speaking engagements to increase visibility of our life-changing opportunities.



1,200+

Program Service
Hours Total

1,441

Program & Service
Interactions

1,004

Volunteer Hours

422

Volunteer Interactions



CONNECTING GLOBALLY THROUGH THE WEB

Through the use of our website, e-mail marketing, digital media awareness, and our YouTube channel, we are able to more accessibly connect to those all across the world. We sent out 58 emails, issued 18 press releases, had 17 news stories, and engaged with 5,615 constituents!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We stay connected to our athletes, volunteers, donors, brand ambassadors, and the rest of the community through our social media outlets. Our social media engagement increased each quarter across platforms.



OUR PRESS COVERAGE

The Columbian
NBC Right Now

Gorge News Center
KTVX

Metro Blind Sport

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SHARING OUR VALUES & MISSION

MISSION: to provide life-changing opportunities through sports and physical activity to individuals who are blind and visually impaired.

VALUES:

Grow Boldly. We are committed to cultivating opportunities for individual and organizational growth.

Be Transparent. We operate with full transparency, bringing honesty and integrity to everything we do.

Be Inclusive. We welcome, serve and support all people with dignity and respect.

Strive for Excellence. We bring steadfast determination in pursuit of our mission and our goals.

Empower People. We champion potential and empower people to turn their ambitions into reality.

VISION: to be the national leader in transforming the quality of life for all individuals who are blind and visually impaired, through sports and physical activity.



BOARD MEMBERS

Erik Selden
Sr Vice President
First Citizens Bank

Don Rhoads
President
The Convenience Group

Scott McCallum
Superintendent
Washington State School for the Blind

Scott Miller
SVP, Marketing
Riverview Community Bank

Teresa Lawwill
Community Volunteer

Jason Fish
Owner
Main Event Restaurants

Dean Watanabe
Community Volunteer

Mike Williams
Community Volunteer
(Retired Sr Sales Manager, Comcast)

Jonathon Nelson
Communications Marketing Specialist
Pacific Power Group

Ben Campbell
Co-owner/Circulation Manager
The Columbian Newspaper

Alan Hed
Community Volunteer
(Retired EVP New Balance)

Rod Cook
Community Volunteer
(Retired President/CEO of Alpine Auto Body)

Eric Merrill
Community Volunteer
(Retired VP, Government Affairs Waste Connections)

Dr. Jennifer Drean
President
Gem State Family Eyecare

OUR IMPACT

**WE ARE
PROUD TO SAY
over 78%
of expenses**

go directly
to support life-
changing programs
for individuals
who are blind and
visually impaired.

Northwest
Association for
Blind Athletes
values your
generosity and is
committed to full
transparency and
stewardship of our
resources. A copy
of our Form 990
is available upon
request and can
be found on our
website
(www.nwaba.org).



JULY 1ST, 2019 -JUNE 30TH, 2020

FINANCIALS

Programs & Services

\$1,012,762

Development & Communications

\$211,857

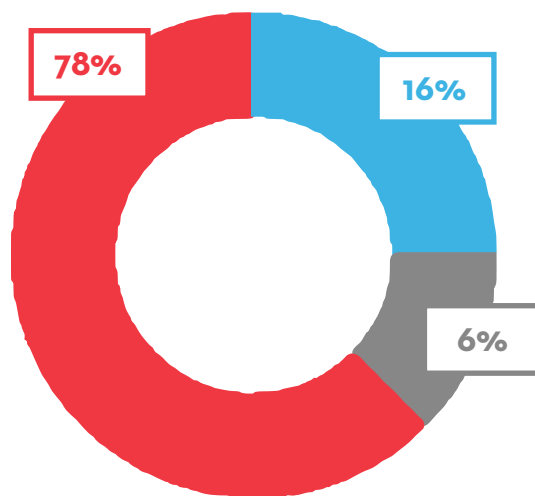
Management & General

\$75,422

Total Revenue

\$1,582,887*

**NWABA received a one-time, designated bequest gift of \$250,000 from a former board member. Without this, the organization had a modest surplus of \$32,846 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020.*



	2019	2020
Total Revenue	\$1,053,404	\$1,582,887
Total Expense	\$1,061,774	\$1,300,041
Ending Net Assets	\$388,551	\$682,540



Whenever I support a non-profit

I look for two things: First, is the organization supporting an important cause or championing individuals in a way that gives them opportunities that would not be available to them without the work of the non-profit. Second, I look for a leader that is driven to do more, to drive operational efficiency for their organization allowing them to do more for the communities they serve. NWABA has both, in spades. I'm proud to be a supporter.

- Henry Schuck, Chief Executive Officer & Co-Founder, ZoomInfo

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Our vision is to be the national leader in transforming the quality of life for all individuals who are blind and visually impaired through participation in sports and physical activity, and our finances reflect that.



Served 402 children, youth, and adults across the Northwest.



Strategically invested in our growth areas including Southern Willamette Valley, Puget Sound, and the state of Idaho.



Engaged 154 volunteers in sports and physical activity for individuals who are blind or visually impaired.



Northwest Association for Blind Athletes is honored to have been awarded a Platinum Seal, the highest level possible, by Guidestar, demonstrating our commitment to transparency.

GET INVOLVED

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NWABA is an athlete-centered, volunteer-driven organization. Thanks to the unyielding generosity of more than 154 volunteers, NWABA is able to continue growing our programs to reach individuals across the Northwest, regardless of age, background, or ability. With a team of dedicated volunteers by our side, we continue to grow our impact every day.



ADVOCATE



BE AN ADVOCATE

Support our mission across social platforms, share our mission with your network, and become a brand ambassador!

DONATE YOUR DAY

Do you have a birthday, anniversary, or another reason to celebrate? Consider supporting NWABA on this special day with a campaign to raise critical funds for our athletes.

Using Facebook Fundraising on your special day can greatly help our athletes participate in events such as Camp Spark!

To get started, contact:
development@nwaba.org



VOLUNTEER



PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Work with a team of dedicated volunteers and become a tandem biking captain, swimming instructor, hiking guide, and more for one day events. Volunteer for an extended weekend as a counselor and more!

SPECIAL EVENTS

NWABA hosts a number of special fundraising events throughout the year to support our mission.

OFFICE

Volunteers are invited to help with special projects throughout the year with programs and development.

To volunteer, contact:
programsteam@nwaba.org



OTHER WAYS



FRED MEYER

COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit

[www.fredmeyer.com/
communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards)

Log-in to your account, click "Link Your Rewards Card Now", and Enter NWABA's nonprofit code, #89247

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to support our life-changing programs.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

In-kind donations are graciously accepted by NWABA throughout the year.

To learn more, contact:
development@nwaba.org



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



I encourage anyone looking to give back and impact another individual's life to consider volunteering or donating to The Northwest Association for Blind Athletes. You will not regret a minute of your time and you can trust your money will go directly to help those who will benefit from it.

– Alan Hed, NWABA Board Member

CELEBRATING SUCCESSES IN AN UNPRECEDENTED YEAR



THANK YOU!

We greatly appreciate all of our donors, board members, event sponsors, and volunteers for joining us in support of our programs, fundraising events, and campaigns. Our world faced significant challenges this year, but with you by our side, we were truly able to make a difference.



CHAMPIONS LEGACY GIVING SOCIETY



My family gives to NWABA to support the mission of people who have decided to find a solution to make their own way. Movement is the foundation of life and is essential to our function and well-being. NWABA has made it accessible where it was not before.

— Jordan Smith

BECOME A CHAMPION. LEAVE A LEGACY.

On behalf of the children, youth, and adults with visual impairments we work with, we invite you to become a Champion by making a legacy gift to help ensure individuals with visual impairments always have the opportunity to build the confidence, friendship, and independence they need to achieve success in all areas of life. Members of the Champions Legacy Giving Society have made a gift that will truly transcend time and make a difference for a lifetime by including Northwest Association for Blind Athletes as part of their estate planning.



INCLUDE NWABA IN YOUR WILL

Add NWABA to your will through a simple bequest - the most popular and easiest choice.



DESIGNATE A BENEFICIARY

Make NWABA the beneficiary of retirement accounts, insurance plans, stocks, bonds, or mutual funds.



DONATE PROPERTY

Bestow real estate or other valuable property that you no longer need to NWABA, and avoid capital gains.



Giving is as easy as adding one sentence to your will! To further discuss your options, please contact Billy Henry at bhenry@nwaba.org or 360.718.2826.



NW ASSOCIATION
FOR
BLIND
ATHLETES

PO Box 61489 | Vancouver, WA 98666
360.448.7254 • 800.880.9837 • nwaba.org