[COVER]

**IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE WHO ARE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

**2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

ENRICHING LIVES. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES.

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Dear Friends,

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 areas of life, from school to employment. This past year, working alongside dedicated families, volunteers, and program partners, we made strides in providing the skills, tools, and resources to realize this vision. On behalf of our staff and the individuals and families we serve, we thank you for being a part of our team.

Together, we achieved the following:

* Delivered 600+ in-person and live virtual events to individuals with visual impairments in communities across our region.
* Launched Virtual Programs as part of our core program offerings providing 60-minute live and pre-recorded, audio described virtual workouts to keep our athletes healthy and engaged at home.
* Opened our 2nd office in Boise, Idaho to expand our mission of providing even more programs & services in Idaho and Montana.
* Successfully completed year two of our three-year strategic plan, scaling our services and driving program growth and innovation to deepen mission-impact in line with our 10-year vision.

As we continue to grow, we are proud to showcase the services we delivered across Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana this past year and to highlight some of the incredible individuals and families we had the honor to serve thanks to your collective support. Working together, we will continue to transform lives by improving the quality of life for individuals with visual impairments!

With sincere appreciation,

Billy Henry, Founder, President & CEO

Erik Selden, Board Chair

“We were able to deliver more than 1,900 program and service interactions in FY22 because of your generosity.” ~Billy Henry, Founder, President & CEO

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INNOVATING OUTREACH

Expanding Programming Around the World

NWABA’s virtual programming started out as a necessity throughout the pandemic but has become a constant staple within our organization. This year, we’ve expanded our Virtual Programs and it has become one of our core program offerings. By providing these 60-minute live and pre-recorded, audio-described virtual workouts, NWABA is able to keep our athletes healthy and active at home. Our Virtual Programs are open to individuals of all ages and fitness levels, expanding access almost anywhere in the world.

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SPORTS OUTREACH

Programming New Possibilities

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **363** | **363** | **1,942** | **303** | **950** | **302** | **4,030** | **61** |
| Sports Offered | Athletes Served | Program & Service Interactions | Program Events | Program Hours | Volunteers Engaged | Volunteer Hours | Cities Served |

**SPREADING THE JOY OF SPORTS**

During FY21-22, NWABA continued to adapt our sports outreach by expanding our Virtual Programs and including it as one of our core programs, consistently delivering diverse physical activities to individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

* We expanded our Virtual Programs, delivering 151 online virtual events. The Virtual Programs are so well-attended we added a full schedule of classes 5 days per week.
* We had a record-breaking year, with a total of 1,919 Program & Service Interactions, surpassing last year’s numbers by close to 80%.

NWABA believes people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired deserve the opportunity to participate in sports and to achieve their goals.

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**CAMP SPARK**

**A Life-Changing Experience**

CONNECTIONS WITH LASTING IMPACT

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

In 2022, NWABA hosted seven in-person sessions of Camp Spark this year, including our newest session for campers with a visual impairment and a secondary disability.

My experience with NWABA was one of the most fun and exciting exeriences I’ve had. Being able to meet others that go through the same struggles as you can be comforting, and it makes me feel a lot more understood and happy.”

*— Quincey, NWABA Athlete*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 98 | 67 | 7 |
| Camp Spark Athletes Served | Camp Spark Athletes Served | 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.

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**SPORTS ADAPTATIONS**

**Forging Avenues for Inclusion**

VIDEO RESOURCE LIBRARY

The NWABA Video Resource Library provides free instructional videos and supporting content on how to adapt and teach sports and physical activities to those with visual impairments. These videos were developed for educators, schools, athletes and their families, and are available globally online. We currently have 191 videos and are actively seeking support to expand our offerings further in 2023.

ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT LENDING LIBRARY

Regardless of visual ability, physical location or financial background, everyone deserves to participate in sports. Our Adaptive Equipment Lending Library makes this possible by loaning sports equipment to individuals, families and schools, free of charge. Last year, we sent equipment to 16 cities spanning 4 states, encouraging independence and physical activity across urban and rural communities.

ADAPTED P.E. CONSULTATIONS

In 2021–2022, we provided virtual consultations to teachers, Individualized Education Program (IEP) teams, administrators, and organizations across our four-state region. From adding a sound source to the goal to modifying rules for inclusion, NWABA offered suggestions and adaptations to ensure sports and physical activities are accessible to those who are blind and visually impaired.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 49 | 224 | 25 | 191 |
| Equipment Loans | Sports Adaptations P&S Interactions | Consults | Instructional Videos |
|  |  |  |  |

Played more than 765 times, “Blind Audio Described - Full Body Workout” was our top-performing video last year. Visit our YouTube channel and browse other videos at <https://www.youtube.com/nwaba1>.

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**IMPROVING ACCESS**

**Athletes Achieving Their Goals**

SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

Scholarships and grants reduce financial barriers and empower individuals with the resources they need for special equipment and to participate in various sports activities.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2 | $1,000 |
| Scholarship Applicants | Amount Awarded |
|  |  |

SPORTS TEAMS

NWABA supports varous sports teams throughout its service regions allowing individuals who are blind and visually impaired to participate in team sports and compete in local, regional, national or international competitions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 20 | 2 |
| Athletes Served | Teams Supported |
|  |  |

Northwest Association for Blind Athletes works tirelessly to ensure that individuals who are blind and visually impaired have equitable access to sports, physical activity and essential programs to achieve their goals at home, at school and in their own communities.

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**VISIBILITY & OUTREACH**

**Programming New Possibilities**

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 the visibility of our life-changing opportunities.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1,193 | 749 | 1,942 |
| In-Person P&S Interactions | Virtual P&S Interactions | Total Interactions |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DIGITAL CHANNELS** **WITH GLOBAL REACH** | **CRAFTING COMMUNITY** **ON SOCIAL MEDIA** | **MAKING HEADLINES** **IN THE NEWS** |
| Through our website, email outreach, YouTube channel, and digital media, we are fostering new levels of access, inclusion, and connection across the world, engaging with more than 6,000 constituents. | We stay connected to athletes, volunteers, donors, brand ambassadors, and the rest of the community through YouTube, Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn, continuously increasing engagement across platforms. | In the 2021–2022 year, we appeared in about 25 news stories across The Columbian, KGW, NBC Right Now, KATU, KTVX, and Metro Blind Sport. |
|  |  |  |

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**United in our Purpose**

BOARD MEMBERS

**Erik Selden**

- Board Chair

Sr Vice President, Commercial Team Lead

Washington Trust Bank

**Scott McCallum**

- Board Vice-Chair Superintendent

Washington State School

for the Blind

**Teresa Lawwill**

- Board Secretary

Community Volunteer

**Megan Bishop**

Vice President, Finance & Business Operations

Comcast

**Ben Campbell**

Publisher & CEO

The Columbian

**Rod Cook**

*Community Volunteer*

**Dr. Jennifer Drean**

*President*

Gem State Family Eyecare

**Jason Fish**

*Owner*

Main Event Restaurants

**Jeff Gray**

*Global Head of Product &*

*Digital Technology Talent Acquisition*

ServiceNow

**Alan Hed**

*Community Volunteer*

**Karen Holterhoff**

*Community Volunteer*

**Eric Merrill**

*Community Volunteer*

**Scott Miller**

*Community Volunteer*

**Jonathon Nelson**

*Senior Writer*

Legacy Health

**Don Rhoads**

*President*

The Convenience Group

**Robert Stewart**

*Investment Advisor Representative*

CUSO Financial Services/Columbia Credit Union

**Mike Williams**

*Community Volunteer*

**Billy Henry**

*Founder, President & CEO*

*NWABA*

**AMBASSADOR BOARD**

**Ben Campbell**

- Ambasador Board Chair

Publisher &CEO

The Columbian

**Monica Santos-Pinacho**

- Ambassador Board Vice Chair

Director of Community Engagement

PointNorth

**Erica Bedrossian**

Community Volunteer

**Neil Daly**

Insurance Agent

State Farm

**Colleen Frank**

Project Manager

Watson Creative

**KaDo Gorman**

Community Volunteer

**Alan Hwang**

Chief Growth Officer

Riff Agency

**Brian Lott**

Business Development

Hudson River Trading

**Harrison Lynch**

Community Volunteer

**Colleen Madigan**

NWABA Athlete & Community Volunteer

**Tina Vlachos**

Agency Owner

American Family Mutual Insurance

**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.

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**OUR IMPACT**

**Directly Driving Results**

MORE THAN 73% OF OUR EXPENSES GO DIRECTLY TO SUPPORTING OUR LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS.

NWABA values your generosity and is committed to full transparency and stewardship of our resources. A copy of our Form 990 is available online at [nwaba.org](http://www.nwaba.org/) or can be provided upon request.

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**Financial IMPACT**

**Fiscal Year: July 1, 2021—June 30, 2022**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Programs & Services | Development & Communications | Management & General |
| $1,227,381 | $406,526 | $91,279 |

Total Revenue

$2,058,802\*

*\*NWABA received a one-time, non-renewable COVID-19 relief grant that was recorded as revenue which resulted in a higher than anticipated net surplus.*

We are proud to say that 73% 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.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **2021** | **2022** |
| **Total Revenue** | $1,582,819 | $2,058,802 |
| **Total Expense** | $1,197,303 | $1,775,186 |
| **Ending Net Assets** | $385,516 | $283,616 |

Served 363 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 302 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 Candid, demonstrating our commitment to transparency.

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**GET INVOLVED**

**Transforming Lives, Together**

**ADVOCATE**

BE AN ADVOCATE

Support our mission by telling your personal and business networks about NWABA. Share your experience across social platforms and become a brand ambassador!

DONATE YOUR SPECIAL 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 us: [development@nwaba.org](http://development@nwaba.org) or 360.448.7254

**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.

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

To volunteer, contact: programsteam@nwaba.org

**OTHER WAYS**

COMMUNITY CARES FOR NWABA

Community Cares for NWABA is a third-party fundraising program hosted by an NWABA supporter, whose proceeds are donated to the organization.

FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Visit: www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

IN-KIND DONATIONS

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

To learn more, contact us: [development@nwaba.org](http://development@nwaba.org) or 360.448.7254

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**THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING**

**Community Engaging with our Athletes**

“What drew me in, and has kept me coming back over the years, is the independence and confidence that NWABA fosters in its athletes and the relationships it builds. I’ve seen the joy and increased confidence of athletes after hiking, swimming, tandem bicycling, stand up paddleboarding, kayaking, skiing and snowboarding.”

*– Margaret, NWABA Volunteer*

To learn more about volunteering with NWABA, visit [www.nwaba.org/volunteer](http://www.nwaba.org/volunteer).

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**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. With you by our side, we were truly able to make a difference.

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**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 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.

“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*

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 Sue Warren, Sr. Director of Development, at swarren@nwaba.org or 360.984.5506.

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