

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



NW ASSOCIATION
FOR
BLIND
ATHLETES

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

ENRICHING LIVES. PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billy Henry".



Erik Selden, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erik Selden".



We were able to deliver more than 1,900 program and service interactions in FY22 because of your generosity."

BILLY HENRY - FOUNDER, PRESIDENT & CEO

CONTENTS

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Sports Outreach
Camp Spark
Sports Adaptations
Improving Access

4
5
6
7

GROWTH

Visibility & Outreach
Board of Directors
Our Impact
Financial Impact

8
9
10
11

COMMUNITY

Get Involved
The Power of Volunteering
Thank You
Champions Legacy

12
13
14
15



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.

SPORTS OUTREACH

Programming New Possibilities



15

Sports
Offered

363

Athletes
Served

1,942

Program & Service
Interactions

303

Program
Events

950

Program
Hours

302

Volunteers
Engaged

4,030

Volunteer
Hours

61

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.

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 experiences 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

Program & Service Interactions



67

Camp Spark Athletes Served



7

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

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

Equipment
Loans

224

Sports Adaptations
P&S Interactions

25

Consults

191

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>.

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

Scholarship Applicants

\$1,000

Amount Awarded

SPORTS TEAMS

NWABA supports various 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

Athletes Served

2

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.

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

**In-Person P&S
Interactions**

749

**Virtual P&S
Interactions**

1,942

Total Interactions



DIGITAL CHANNELS WITH GLOBAL REACH

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.



CRAFTING COMMUNITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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.



MAKING HEADLINES IN THE NEWS

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.

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
- *Ambassador 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.



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 or can be provided upon request.



FINANCIAL IMPACT

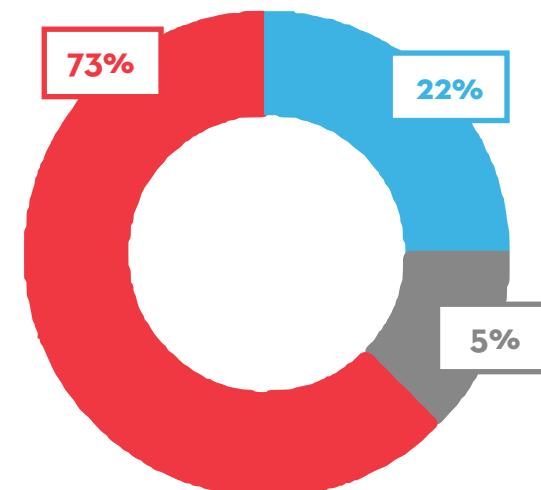
Fiscal Year: July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022

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

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 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 or 360.448.7254

THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERING

Community Engaging with our Athletes

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



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.

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.

VISION FOR OPPORTUNITIES
Fundraising Lunch

SAVE THE DATE!
Thursday, October 7, 2021
Hosted Virtually & In-Person at The Sentinel

Sponsored By: **ALTURAS**

POWER UP!

www.nwaba.org/powerupid

IDAHO DINNER & AUCTION • Saturday, October 23, 2021

Celebrating 15 years of our mission in action

PRESENTED BY: The Sheffield Family

2022 DINNER & AUCTION

MISSION: POSSIBLE

Saturday, February 26th

nwaba.org/possible

15
ANNIVERSARY

Join us!
May 5th, 2022

Celebrate 15 years of our mission in action, made possible by YOU!

THE ASSOCIATION OF **BLIND ATHLETES**



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

