



**ADAPTIVE SPORTS CONNECTION**



# **Power of Ability** *CHAMPIONS IN MOTION* 2024 **IMPACT REPORT**



## About .....

Understanding the power of ability within is the game-changer for all of us.

Welcome to Adaptive Sports Connection. Together, we are champions in motion across Ohio and beyond. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit headquartered in Columbus, we are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Veterans, children, and adults with disabilities through the transformative power of adaptive sports. Since 1992, we've been proving that when determination meets opportunity, the human spirit soars.

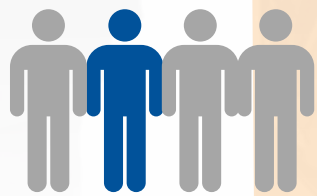
What makes us extraordinary is the power of connection. Every adventure builds more than skills—it creates lasting bonds, deep friendships, and a supportive community where everyone rises together. Whether on the slopes, water, or trails, the camaraderie and shared triumphs lift up not just our athletes, but every volunteer, family member, and supporter.

Through adaptive sports, outdoor recreation, and education, we're not just breaking barriers—we're redefining what's possible, together.

We are Champions in Motion.

## Mission .....

To break through limitations with education and adaptive innovation, ensuring people of all abilities the health benefits, freedom, and sense of belonging from recreation and outdoor experiences.



**2,322,751 adults in Ohio with a disability.**

This is equal to 25% or 1 in 4 adults in Ohio.



**111,451 children in Ohio with a disability.**

This is equal to 1 in 20 children in Ohio.



“Thank you for allowing my son to ride a bike with the other neighborhood kids and helping him feel a sense of belonging, not like an outcast. Thank you for giving his twin brother the chance to ride alongside him, no longer pretending or holding back so Major doesn't feel left out. Your generosity has restored my faith, lifted my spirits, and reminded me that miracles come in all shapes and forms.”

— Major's Mom

# BELONGING



Dear Friends of Adaptive Sports Connection,

Welcome to the **2024 Impact Report**—a celebration of the incredible strides we've made together to transform lives and build healthier communities!

Guided by our mission to improve the health and well-being of Veterans, children, and adults with disabilities through sports, education, and outdoor recreation, we've achieved extraordinary milestones this year:

**Victory for Veterans:**

Our Warrior Sports Program and signature events, Boundless Freedom and Boundless Hope on the Slopes, provided adaptive sports experiences to Veterans and their families nationwide echoing the mantra adapt and overcome.

**Triple Hat-Trick of Support:**

Secured significant funding from the State of Ohio, the City of Columbus, and the Franklin County Commissioners.

**Power of Ability Initiative Sprinting Towards the Finish Line:**

Raised \$9.4 million toward the Phase I goal of \$10 million to build our Adventure and Wellness Lodge – a hub for adaptive sports, wellness, and education. A boundless dose of gratitude goes to our Corporate Champions of Ability: Nationwide, Huntington, AEP, and Big Lots.

**Boundless Possibilities:**

This year we shattered limits, connecting with more individuals than ever through our adaptive kayaking, cycling, snow sports, and beyond. These transformative programs empowered athletes to embrace their Power of Ability.

**Delivering Joy:**

Delivered 88 adaptive bikes to children, bringing independence, freedom, and joy.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Our work is just beginning. As we continue to align with our North Star vision, we remain committed to:

- ✓ Expanding outreach to underserved communities.
- ✓ Creating innovative programs to improve physical, emotional, and social well-being.
- ✓ Building strong partnerships that amplify our impact.

None of this would be possible without your belief in our mission, generosity, and unwavering support.

Thank you for being a Champion in Motion...

With gratitude,



**Sharon Bucey**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Adaptive Sports Connection



**Michael Brachocki**  
Chairman of the Board  
CFP, Senior Wealth Management Executive,  
Huntington



“As an amputee, I try to make the best of it,” Shane said. “I focus on what makes me stronger. I’ve learned to overcome and never give up. I’m grateful to be alive — to have a second chance at doing life better.”

— Shane Parsons,  
U.S. Army Veteran, ASC Athlete

**PEACE**





Kayaking



Water Skiing



Paddleboarding

# Adaptive Recreation

*IF I CAN DO THIS,  
I CAN DO ANYTHING*

We draw from decades of experience working with people of all abilities, harnessing the power of specialized equipment, techniques, teaching methods and volunteer support to help people take on challenges beyond their wildest expectations.



Cycling



Soccer



Skiing



Snowboarding



Mountain Biking



Bikes to Go



Youth Empowerment



Senior Program



# Warrior Sports

POWERING UP FOR LIFE

COMMITTED TO HELPING VETERANS THRIVE - IMPACTING PHYSICAL, MENTAL HEALTH, RESILIENCY, AND GRIT.

We snow ski, water ski, kayak, golf, mountain bike, fish, and create events to unite Veterans. Answering the U.S. Surgeon General's call to connection - we know sports, outdoor recreation, and adventure therapy changes lives.

Through our Power of Ability campaign, we are determined to expand our Veteran outreach state-wide and nationally. Focused on collaborating with other organizations, we are developing innovative outdoor experiences designed to bring hope, healing, and health - as we honor Veterans' sacrifices, service, and strength.





**1,895**  
RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES  
(ATHLETE VISITS)

**3,312**  
VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCES  
(VOLUNTEER VISITS)

**229**  
VETERAN EXPERIENCES  
(VETERAN VISITS)

**5,505**  
VOLUNTEER HOURS

**238**  
EVENTS

We asked our adaptive athletes how participating in ASC programming has impacted their lives.



**98%**

reported improvement  
in overall health



**97%**

reported improvement  
in overall confidence



**98%**

reported improvement  
in physical health



**98%**

reported improvement  
in sports skills



**96%**

reported improvement  
in mental health



**94%**

reported improvement  
in social well-being

Information reflects calendar year 2024.

# Who We Serve

Serving individuals facing a variety of conditions across Ohio and beyond.

- SPINAL CORD INJURY • AUTISM • PTSD • CEREBRAL PALSY • LIMB DIFFERENCE • SCOLIOSIS • BIPOLAR DISORDER • DEPRESSION • SCHIZOPHRENIA • DYSPRAXIA • DYSLEXIA • EPILEPSY • PARKINSON'S DISEASE • MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS • CYSTIC FIBROSIS • CANCER • FIBROMYALGIA • STROKE • ARTHRITIS • DOWN SYNDROME • ALZHEIMER'S • BRAIN INJURY • HEAD INJURY • VETERAN • MENTAL HEALTH • INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY • RET SYNDROME • SENSORY PROCESSING DISORDER • POST-CONCUSSION SYNDROME • TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY • ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT • HEART DEFECT • TEMPORARY DISABILITY/INJURY • TETRAPLEGIA • PARAPLEGIA • QUADRIPLÉGIA • VISUAL IMPAIRMENT • HEARING DISABILITY • DEAF/HARD OF HEARING • EATING DISORDER • SLEEP APNEA • MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY • SPINA BIFIDA • ACHONDROPLASIA • PRADER-WILLI SYNDROME • ANGELMAN SYNDROME • EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROME • GUILLAN-BARRE SYNDROME • ARTHROGRYPOSIS • PULMONARY HYPERTENSION • SEXUAL TRAUMA • SUBSTANCE ABUSE • BURN SURVIVOR • CANCER SURVIVOR • ANXIETY DISORDER • SELECTIVE MUTISM • ADJ/ADHD • ATAXIA • DYSMELIA • BRAIN TUMOR • SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY • KLINEFELTER'S SYNDROME • GENETIC DISABILITY RARE AND UNDIAGNOSED • DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY • PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDER • IMPAIRED MUSCLE POWER • ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENT • ILLNESS RELATED DISABILITY • TEMPORARY DISABILITY/INJURY • ATETHOSIS • AMPUTATION • KNEE AMPUTEE • HIP AMPUTEE • BRAIN TUMOR • SEIZURE DISORDER • CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME



## Shredding It on the Slopes!



### BOUNDLESS HOPE ON THE SLOPES DISABLED VETERANS SKI WEEKEND

Veterans with disabilities from Cleveland and Columbus took to the hills at Snow Trails in Mansfield, Ohio for the annual ASC Boundless Hope on the Slopes Veterans Ski Weekend in February. This signature skiing and snowboarding event helps disabled military heroes recover from their physical and emotional injuries.

## Kick It Beyond Limitations!



### KICKIN' IT WITH THE DOCS

ASC's Amputee Soccer Team practiced with the United States Medical Soccer Team (USMST) during the Docs' spring training stop in Columbus leading up to the World Medical Football Championships in Australia. The two teams connected with local soccer enthusiasts to share their love of the game and promote soccer in the community and its positive impact on physical and mental health. Doctors from OhioHealth, The Ohio State University and the Columbus VA are part of the USMST.

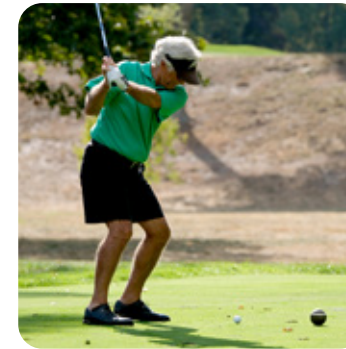
## Adventure Knows No Limits!



### BOUNDLESS FREEDOM VETERANS ADVENTURE WEEKEND

Veterans and their families from across the country gathered in Columbus for ASC's Boundless Freedom Veterans Adventure Weekend in July. This epic event improves the health and well-being of Veterans of all abilities through thought-provoking conversations and exhilarating outdoor experiences. Boundless Freedom weekend is open to Veterans and their families at no charge in partnership with Team Red, White and Blue and Wounded Warrior Project.

## Driving Impact, One Swing at A Time!



### 4TH ANNUAL ASC HONOR. CELEBRATE. INSPIRE GOLF CLASSIC

This year's Honor. Celebrate. Inspire. Golf Classic lived up to its name. A packed field enjoyed a picture perfect day at the Columbus Country Club. Players and guests gained meaningful insights from the event co-chairs, former British Open Champion Ben Curtis, and Nick Kimmel, U.S. Marine Veteran and triple amputee adaptive golf star. Funds raised improve the health and well-being of Veterans, children, and adults with disabilities.

## Stretching Boundaries, Inspiring Hearts!



### YOGA & WELLNESS EVENT WITH DAN NEVINS

ASC brought holistic healing and mindful meditation to the Columbus community at a transformative yoga and wellness event in the fall. Dan Nevins, U.S. Army Veteran, Tier 3 certified yoga influencer, and world-renowned motivational speaker, led this powerful, complimentary session that attracted people of all abilities. Thanks to our partners, including the Miracle League of New Albany, New Albany Schools, lululemon, and Clean EatZ.

## Where Inspiration Meets Celebration!



### BOUNDLESS BASH

It was a special night at ASC's inaugural Boundless Bash. Master of Ceremonies Bobby Carpenter brought his message about the life-enhancing qualities of sports to the packed audience. Dan Nevins, U.S. Army Veteran and double amputee, shared how adaptive sports saved his life after recovering from injuries sustained in combat. The evening closed with The Power Chords, the multi-talented CEO and executive band. Nationwide was the recipient of the Champion of Ability award in recognition of the organization's dedication to ASC's Power of Ability campaign. And thanks to Big Lots as the presenting sponsor for Bash.

## Rolling Out Kindness, One Bike at A Time!



### BIKES TO GO GIVEAWAY

Kindness was in the air as ASC brought smiles to the kids at the Bikes to Go giveaway in honor of World Kindness Day 2024. Children from across Ohio received their very own adaptive bike and took their new wheels for a test ride to the cheers of their families. The Bikes To Go program provides children and young adults with a bike tailored to meet their needs and abilities. Our thanks to the generous donors and community partners who made the giveaway day possible, including the Walter Foundation, Tom and Ann DiMarco, the Logan Family Foundation, The Harmony Project, Sam Dong Ohio Inc., and many other supporters.

## Grant Supports Sports for All!



### FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GRANT

With a mission to enhance the health of people with disabilities through adaptive sports, outdoor recreation, education, and inclusive engagement, ASC was awarded a 2024 grant from the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. This grant will help ASC create more programs so Columbus residents can equitably prosper and grow.

## Get Your Ride On at Camp!



### FRESH AIR CAMP

ASC hosted a fun-filled adaptive bike riding program at the 2024 Fresh Air Camp in June. This inclusive cycling event gave children with disabilities a chance to experience the joy of bike riding in a safe and supportive environment. Located near Cleveland, Ohio, Fresh Air Camp is an overnight summer camp for children with respiratory technology dependency.

## Summer Sun and Loads of Fun!



### ASC FORMS PARTNERSHIPS WITH LEADING HOSPITALS & SERVICE GROUPS

Central Ohio organizations brought their adaptive athletes out for a day on the water at ASC's activity center. Groups from Goodwill, Nationwide Children's Hospital Camp RISE, OhioHealth, Columbus Recreation & Parks Department, Ohio School for the Deaf, and the YMCA enjoyed a variety of kayaking activities. "One of my favorite memories was when one of the kids from the School for the Blind said she was really scared and needed to put on her 'brave, big girl pants' before getting in the boat," said an ASC program coordinator. "But after kayaking, she said it was the best field trip!"

## A Boost for ASC's Future



### MLS GRANT SUPPORTS POWER OF ABILITY

The MLS All-Star Skills Challenge brought out the best MLS players to take on Liga MX, Mexico's premier professional soccer league, in central Ohio this past summer. ASC was honored to receive a \$25,000 grant as the charity of choice for the winning MLS team. The grant represents MLS' work to leave a lasting legacy and be a force for positive change in local communities. This generous donation will support ASC's Power of Ability initiative.

## Delivering Messages of Impact, Hope, and Well-being



### ASC REACHES NEW AUDIENCES

This year the ASC Programs team took to the streets to share the work of the organization. Staff met with a variety of organizations, including schools, service groups, and corporate ERGs, like Victoria's Secret. Spreading the message about the importance of adaptive sports and recreation for those with disabilities engages the community and shows ASC's impact.



# 48 Community and Nonprofit Organizations

- A Kid Again
- Autism Society of Central Ohio
- Barrington Elementary
- Bayne Foundation
- BESA
- Central Ohio Spina Bifida Alliance
- City of Columbus
- City of Delaware
- City of Dublin
- City of Powell
- City of Westerville
- Cleveland Metro Marks
- Columbus Aqua Ski Club
- Columbus City Schools
- Columbus Metro Parks
- Columbus Recreation and Parks
- Columbus Youth Foundation
- Concord Township Fire Department
- Defense Supply Center Columbus
- Delaware County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio
- Fishing Derby c/o Mitchell Carpenter
- Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Franklin County Commissioners
- Fresh Air Camp
- Goodwill
- Harmony Project
- Johnny Velo Bikes
- Kids on the Block of Central Ohio
- Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Logan Family Foundation
- Mad River Mountain
- Miracle League of New Albany
- Move United
- NCH Camp RISE
- Ohio State School for the Blind
- Ohio Valley Ski Council
- Pedal with Pete
- St. Francis DeSales Ski Club
- St. Clair Athletic Club
- Stark County Ski Club
- Stockhands Horses for Healing
- TOCA Columbus
- Union County Board of Developmental Disabilities
- Walter Family Foundation
- Westerville Parks & Recreation
- Westerville Senior Center
- Worthington Moose #1427



# 9 Hospitals & Physical Rehabilitation Facilities

- Akron Children's Hospital
- Marysville Memorial Hospital
- MetroHealth Medical Center
- OhioHealth
- OhioHealth Rehabilitation Hospital
- The Cleveland Clinic
- The Cleveland Clinic Children's Hospital for Rehabilitation
- The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
- UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital



# 14 Veterans Organizations

- Blue Star Mothers Department of Ohio
- Buckeye Military Moms
- Central Ohio VA Healthcare System
- Central Ohio Veterans Stand Down
- Cleveland VA
- Columbus VA
- Irreverent Warriors
- National Veterans Memorial and Museum
- Ohio Department of Veteran Services
- Ohio State Veterans Services
- Project Healing Waters
- Qfm96 Red, White, & Q Fund
- Team Red, White and Blue
- Wounded Warrior Project



Thank you to all of our generous individual and corporate donors.

Because of you, we are improving the health and well-being of Veterans, children, and adults with disabilities.



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*CFP®, Senior Vice President, Regional Manager, Huntington*

**Mike French**, Vice Chairman  
*Community Leader*

**Jay Hoffman**, Immediate Past Chairman  
*Director Customer Support Services, American Electric Power*

**Derrick Ransom**, Treasurer  
*CFP®, Senior Vice President & Market Executive, Key Private Bank*

**Susan Pigott**, Secretary  
*Community Leader*

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**Larry Seward**, Outreach and Constituent Services Representative for Congresswoman Joyce Beatty OH-03

**Erin Souza**, Community Leader

PAST 2024 BOARD MEMBERS

**Mike Hackett**, President, Hackett Wealth Management

**Bill Martin**, Executive Vice President, SMC Infrastructure Partners



“Matthew was 7 year’s old when we first started coming to ASC and now he’s 29. Knowing that people care enough to give him their time really lights him up.”  
 — Matthew’s Mom

HAPPINESS





**Boundless Freedom Veterans Adventure Weekend**

Get ready for three days full of outdoor adventure, inspiration, camaraderie and so much more at Adaptive Sports Connection Boundless Freedom Veterans Adventure Weekend, August 1 - 3, 2025! The event is free to Veterans and their families and will take place at Recreation Unlimited, 7700 Piper Rd, Ashley, OH 43003.



**Honor. Celebrate. Inspire. Golf Classic**

Enjoy a one of a kind day on the links in support of sports access and inclusivity at the 2025 ASC Honor. Celebrate. Inspire. Golf Classic! Get your foursome together for some good golf, good times, and good stories from our adaptive athletes. September 18, 2025 at the Columbus Country Club, 4831 E Broad St, Columbus, OH 43213.



**Boundless Bash**

Boundless Bash, ASC's signature event, goes Buckeye style this year! Our keynote speaker is Tyson Gentry, former football player at The Ohio State University. Tyson, who suffered a spinal cord injury during a practice scrimmage, will share his inspiring story of hope and healing. Guests will also be treated to spectacular food, drink, and entertainment from the Tom Krouse Band. Join us on October 2, 2025 at the Estates at New Albany, 5216 Forest Dr, New Albany, OH 43054.

**Make A Difference**

**Thank you for being a part of the ASC community.**

Our mission is to create a brighter future for those living with a disability. Please help us continue this effort by making a donation. Your support provides essential programming, resources, and opportunities for so many Veterans, adults, and children across Ohio.

*Join us in making a lasting impact now.*

**DONATE**



**VOLUNTEER**



**SPONSOR**





“Showing up today was the first step. The fact that you did reach out for help and are participating is going to build confidence in others and in myself as well.”

— Delisa Smith,  
U.S. Army Veteran, ASC Athlete

**JOY**

