



# Sun Valley Adaptive Sports

Children, Teens, Adults, Veterans

We change lives and make people smile!

## Sun Valley Adaptive Sports

### Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: May 2009

#### History

##### **When was SVAS founded?**

1999. This was the year SVAS incorporated and received its 501c3 nonprofit status.

##### **What is the mission?**

“To use sports and recreation to enrich the lives of people with disabilities.” We do this by providing programs and services that help people develop the physical skills and confidence they need to enjoy all sorts of sports and recreational activities. Our programs and services also provide healing and therapy, and help people develop the life skills, hope, and inspiration they need to interact or reorient themselves with family, peers, and their community.

#### Programs

##### **Who do you serve?**

Local children, teens, and adults with physical and developmental disabilities. We do serve people who vacation in Sun Valley or live here part-time.

We also serve, wounded warriors (service members) who have been severely wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the Global War on Terror. Injuries include traumatic brain injuries (TBI), post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), spinal cord injuries, amputations, blindness, visual and hearing impairments, and severe burns.

##### **What geographic region do you serve?**

80 percent of the children, teens, and adults we serve live in Blaine County. Others live in neighboring counties, and we’re making an effort to serve more of them. Wounded Warriors come from all around the country, but it’s a priority to first serve wounded warriors living in Idaho.

##### **How many participants do you serve? (2009-2010 estimates)**

100 local children, teens, and adults. 50 from the Idaho School of the Deaf and Blind. 20 from Camp Rainbow Gold (children with cancer). 50-60 wounded warriors (plus their significant others). Others: 20.

##### **Do participants have to pay fees?**

No. All programs are free to all participants. If the participant is a wounded warrior, there is no cost to his or her significant other.

##### **How are resources divided among programs?**

50 percent of our resources support programming for local children, teens, and adults. 50 percent goes to support our wounded warrior program.



### **What types of sports and recreational activities do you offer?**

It depends on the time of year, age of participant, and type of disability. During winter, we offer skiing, snowboarding, Nordic skiing, ice skating, paragliding, and snowshoeing. During summer, we have day camps for children, swimming, rock climbing, rafting, horseback riding, fly-fishing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, hiking, camping, and biking. Throughout the year, we also offer martial arts, theater, pottery, bowling, social outing activities, and many others. Call for details.

### **What programs do you offer and what is the resource allocation breakdown?**

- *Fresh Tracks*: Ski, snowboard, ice skating, and Nordic ski activities for youth, teens, and adults. 25%
- *PACK*: Summer day camp for youth. 20%
- *Higher Ground*: Sports and recreational programs for recently injured service members. 40%
- *Special Olympics*: Athlete training and competition, and social outing programs. 15%

### **Are there any disabilities you cannot serve?**

Yes. Though we can accommodate most disabilities, there are some we cannot. Call for details.

### **Can my child participate in your program if he/she is not a Blaine County resident?**

It depends. Some of our programs are offered to non-residents. Call the office for details.

### **How old must a child be to participate?**

At least four years old.

### **Can your staff administer medications to participants?**

No. For safety and insurance reasons, participants must be able to administer their own medications or have a parent/guardian be responsible to do so.

## **Funding**

### **What is your budget for 2009-2010?**

\$945,000.

### **What is your fundraising goal for 2009-2010?**

\$1,75,000.

### **How much money did you raise in fiscal year 2008-2009?**

\$1,165,000.

### **What is the functional area breakdown of funding? 2008 / Project 2009**

- Programs:               80%   88%
- Administration:       10%   6%
- Fundraising:           10%   6%

### **Do you have an annual fundraiser?**

Yes, April of every year. It's our annual "Snowball" fund raiser hosted at Dollar Mountain. The focus is more on public awareness than raising money, but each year we plan to add more fund raising components.



A big part of the event is to invite the public to ski and snowboard with some of our participants, try some of our adaptive equipment, meet the staff, board, and volunteers, and to learn more about SVAS in a fun, relaxed setting.

**Can I make restricted donations?**

Yes. You can donate to a program of your choice, or for a specific piece of equipment such as a new mono-ski.

## Operations and Structure

**Are you a 501c3 nonprofit?**

Yes. Our EIN number is: 82-0512146

**How many full-time staff?**

- Executive Director – Tom Iselin
- Program Director (CTRS) – Cara Barrett
- Program Manager/Recreational Therapist (CTRS) – Shauna Smith
- Higher Ground Coordinator (CTRS) – Bert Gillett
- Volunteer Coordinator/Program Support – Kate Weihe

**How many part-time staff?**

- Office Administrator – Shannon Thelen
- Bookkeeper – Jean Seymour

**How many board members?** 9

**How many advisory board members?** 8 **Honorary members?** 8

**How many volunteers?** 325

**How old do you need to be to volunteer?**

Volunteers need to be at least high school age. We prefer that volunteers be able to drive, so we prefer 16 or older.

**Do you have a facility?**

We do have an office (120 Second Ave, Suite 206 and 207, Ketchum, ID). Base camp for our summer day camp is located at Sagebrush Arena in Hailey.

In the winter, we run our snowsports activities in collaboration with Sun Valley Company at the base of Bald Mountain and Dollar Mountain at the Sun Valley Nordic Center. We also partner with the YMCA, Ketchum Parks and Recreation, Blaine County Parks and Recreation, and other local organizations that allow us to use their facilities.

