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Transforming lives through outdoor recreation

This year's winter weather and lack of snow put our adaptive abilities to the test. At the start of the ski season, our participants were ready to hit the slopes at The Summit at Snoqualmie and Stevens Pass but Mother Nature had other plans.

Diana, a second year participant and wheel chair user, couldn't wait to start her sit-ski lessons. Living with disability sometimes means that an individual feels different from their peers and excluded from things others are able to enjoy but for Diana, skiing with Outdoors for All is *"a great opportunity to do something I love and can be proud of."*



Diana and her amazing volunteers were all smiles while making the most out of the ski season

This year 288 participants registered for our ski and snowboard lessons hoping to get out on the snow and feel the same pride that Diana describes. Unfortunately, snow levels at The Summit at Snoqualmie were not high enough to sustain our season.

Cancelling our programs and robbing our participants of the chance to exercise their abilities in the outdoors was not option. Thanks to your support we had sufficient operating reserves to follow the snow and move programs based at The Summit at Snoqualmie to Stevens Pass. **We incurred over \$42,000 in costs and lost revenue to provide these remaining lessons** —but we know that it was worth it!

Your support can help underwrite the added cost of these life transforming activities. **Please consider making a gift to help ensure we have the resources to provide our remaining adaptive and therapeutic recreation programs that we still have scheduled this year to enrich the lives of children and adults with disabilities. .**

The entire Outdoors for All community has rallied to make smiles and fun on the slopes possible for 288 children and adults. Diana was grateful to have the chance to ski after all but her experiences and those of others would not have been possible without your support:

"Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Stevens Pass sit ski program again this year!! It makes me feel so happy to have something to look forward to every week. It's a great opportunity to be able to do something I love and can be proud of. I made it off tethers the last day of the session and feel so accomplished! Thank you for the wonderful programs you offer!"

As an outdoor organization we are vulnerable to environmental conditions. Luckily, we provide more than just snow-sports. The generosity we've seen from our supporters and

volunteers has played a critical role in expanding Outdoors for All operations to include cycling, kayaking, day camps, yoga, and more that our participants can enjoy year round.



Your support helps provides children like Jacob the opportunity to experience the joys of cycling.

Jacob came to us last month through a referral from Seattle Children's Hospital after becoming paralyzed. He rode a hand cycle and had an "awesome time!" His mother, Cheryl, was elated to see her son having so much fun again after an infection took his ability to walk and said "You've opened up a whole new world for us."

The fun had by participants and volunteers alike is not the only reason our programs are vital. With your support, we do open up new worlds for participants and their family members. Adaptive and therapeutic programs provide an array of social and physical benefits including:

- increased physical fitness
- higher levels of confidence
- a greater sense of independence
- more meaningful social connections and relationships

Your contribution will help make these social and physical benefits available to thousands of participants with disabilities all year long.

The financial burden of a low snow year does not have to have lasting impact on our year-round programs. The continued investment you'll be making in Outdoors for All will help ensure our volunteers and participants have the equipment, training, and facilities to operate our spring and summer programs at full capacity.

The ski season may have come to end, but still, hundreds of children and adults with disabilities are looking forward to our spring and summer programs. Please give today to help make these "new worlds" of opportunities possible for the thousands who count on you and us to have meaningful fun in the outdoors.

For our participants,

Handwritten signature of Bob Weller

Bob Weller
President, Board of Directors