



P.O. Box 4084
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PRESS RELEASE

DREAM ADAPTIVE RECREATION RECEIVES GRANT FROM CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION FOR WINTER ALPINE PROGRAM

Whitefish, MT – April 15th, 2016 – DREAM Adaptive Recreation is proud to announce that it has received a \$12,650 Quality of Life grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. The award was one of 107 grants totaling over \$735,482 awarded by the Reeve Foundation to nonprofit organizations nationwide that provide more opportunities, access, and daily quality of life for individuals living with paralysis, their families, and caregivers. Conceived by the late Dana Reeve, the program has awarded over 2,600 grants totaling over \$19 million since 1999.

DREAM Adaptive Recreation received this grant award because their services greatly impact the lives of people living with disabilities. Cheri DuBeau Carlson, the Executive Director, states, "Not only are we improving individual lives but also creating a stronger community by encouraging independence amongst our athletes." DREAM will use the grant for Adaptive Winter Equipment, including an adaptive snowboard and two sit skis.

DREAM is honored to receive this grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation to further their Winter Alpine Program. With the purchase of the new equipment, this will be the first time that the local nonprofit can offer adaptive snowboarding with the proper equipment. DREAM provided over 1300 lessons during the 2015-2016 ski season to people with disabilities including children, adults as well as destination skiers that visited the area.

"The Reeve Foundation is committed to supporting programs and resources that foster independent living, improved health and community engagement," said Donna Valente, Director, Quality of Life Grants, Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. "The recognized grantees are instrumental to our work at the Reeve Foundation as we strive to serve the disability community with a roadmap of resources and programs to enhance their quality of life."

Awarded twice yearly, grant requests were evaluated and scored based on a rigorous review process to determine funding for organizations that improve daily life for those living with paralysis, as well as their families and caregivers. This cycle, the Reeve Foundation strategically focused on projects that address the needs of people with paralysis living in underserved areas, designated as groups or county or civil divisions in which residents have a shortage of personal health services or face economic, cultural or linguistic barriers to healthcare.



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[The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation Quality of Life Grants Program](#) was created to address the myriad needs of children and adults living with paralysis, as well as provide assistance and education to their families and caregivers. Funded programs serve individuals living with paralysis caused by injuries, diseases or birth conditions, including but not limited to, stroke, spina bifida, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). The grants support innovative initiatives that aim to increase quality of life by improving physical and emotional health, broadening community engagement, and increasing independence. Quality of Life grants are funded through a cooperative agreement with the Administration for Community Living (cooperative agreement number 90PR3001-01-00).

About the Reeve Foundation

The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by funding innovative research and improving the quality of life for people living with paralysis through grants, information and advocacy. We meet all 20 of the Better Business Bureau's standards for charity accountability and hold the BBB's Charity Seal. The Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) is a program of the Reeve Foundation, and is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Administration for Community Living, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (cooperative agreement number 90PR3001-01-00). For more information, please visit our website at www.ChristopherReeve.org or call 800-539-7309.

DREAM Adaptive Recreation mission is to enhance the quality of life of individuals with disabilities by providing year round outdoor adaptive recreational opportunities. To learn more about this local nonprofit visit their website at www.dreamadaptive.org or call 406-862-1817.

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