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DREAM Adaptive Recreation

Press Release

DREAM Adaptive Recreation is the recipient of \$50,000 grant from the US Department of Veterans Affairs.

Grants for Adaptive Sports Program for Disabled Veterans and Disabled Members of the Armed Forces.

Whitefish, MT September 26, 2016: On September 1st, 2016 DREAM Adaptive Recreation, a local nonprofit that focuses on helping disabled members of the community participate in outdoor recreation, received word that it had received a \$50,000 grant to help disabled veterans.

DREAM Adaptive Recreation has been in Flathead Valley for 31 years and has three well established programs: the Winter Alpine program at Whitefish Mountain Resort, a Water Sports Program at Echo Lake in Bigfork and a Stand Up Paddle Board Program on Flathead Lake and Whitefish Lake. In 2016 DREAM began to offer outdoor recreation opportunities to disabled veterans. Through the Winter Alpine Program and the Water Sports Program, DREAM was able to offer specific days which were set aside for veterans and their family members. With the help of Larry Cannon, Outreach Technician for the Kalispell Vet Center, DREAM was able to provide veterans from North West Montana skiing, sit skiing, snowboarding, water skiing, tubing, kayaking and stand up paddle boarding activities.

Last April, Cheri DuBeau Carlson, Executive Director of DREAM, began applying for a grant to help DREAM fund additional opportunities for the disabled veterans statewide. Larry Cannon has been instrumental in helping DREAM organize events to serve local Veterans. He recently stated, "The Kalispell Vet Center would like to congratulate DREAM Adaptive Recreation for being named as a 2016 VA Adaptive Sports Grant Awardee. We look forward to partnering with them and as they expand the recreational opportunities for Montana Veterans and Service Members."

Through this grant, DREAM will expand their Winter Alpine Program for veterans statewide. DREAM will provide additional adaptive lessons and assist participants with travel costs, lodging and meals. The local nonprofit will also purchase more adaptive equipment including sit skis and outriggers. Additionally, the grant be able to provide more training to their volunteers so DREAM can provide the best possible experience to veterans. If you would like to be involved with this program as a Volunteer or Participant please contact DREAM Adaptive Recreation at 406-862-1817 or email info@dreamadaptive.org.

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"Building Confidence and Encouraging Independence, One Activity at a Time."

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