



# NDAD

helping others to help themselves

Spring 2022

# Insider

**NDAD'S MISSION:**

Enhance the quality of lives  
of individuals facing health challenges.

## Help via an NDAD fundraiser

Community fundraising with NDAD's assistance has helped multiple children and adults with health issues and disabilities over our charity's nearly 47-year N.D. existence.

One recent example: Minot's Taniesha Anderson (right), who has a physical disability and sought personal accessible transportation. NDAD was part of a community effort to provide it.

NDAD offers marketing consultation and aid, and we act as a custodian for funds raised, providing both experience and credibility to fundraising efforts. NDAD's nonprofit status assures that individual and business donations are deductible if the donor itemizes taxes.

Learn about Taniesha's fundraising success and how NDAD may be able to help you or someone you know.



# Taniesha Anderson

*NDAD assists Minot effort to get accessible vehicle for 'go-getter'*

“I believe the best word would be ‘elated,’ definitely ‘elated,’” Louis “Mac” McLeod said. “And to see everything coming to fruition? That’s just a wonderful thing.”

He was describing family friend Taniesha Anderson’s reaction to a successful Minot-based fundraising effort which involved NDAD. The effort helped the 19-year-old online college student obtain a specially designed accessible vehicle - one she not only can board herself but drive on her own, too.

Taniesha was born with caudal regression syndrome, a developmental disorder that impairs her spinal cord, lower back, limbs and more. She’s had multiple surgeries and therapies. She regularly uses a wheelchair.

NDAD’s role included serving as custodian for funds raised on her behalf and providing marketing assistance. NDAD and Marsha Dupré, Minot client services representative, were “very helpful,” said McLeod, fundraiser chairman who already was familiar with many of NDAD’s charitable services in his role as executive director of the



Appreciative for NDAD’s work on her behalf, Taniesha publicly encouraged Giving Hearts Day 2022 support for our charity.

NDAD services for Taniesha included creation of posters and social media to promote her benefits and fundraising page on NDAD.org.

Minot Area Homeless Coalition.

NDAD’s free Community Fundraisers Program is for children and adults with health issues and disabilities, such as Taniesha, who needed help after her mom’s vehicle with adaptive equipment was struck from behind and totaled last fall. None of it deters Taniesha, who’s studying for a career in criminal justice. “A very smart lady and one who does not give up,” McLeod said. “She’s been told a lot of things that she couldn’t do but that’s never entered her mind. She’s a go-getter... She’s steadfast. She gets that from her grandparents and her mother, Sharon.”

Grandparents Leonard and Martha Anderson, pastors at Minot’s Church of the Living God, helped the fundraiser meet its goals using in-depth research and broad contacts, Mac said: “The support for this young lady came in from around the world.” Pastor Martha noted that fundraising allowed Taniesha to obtain a small loan to help complete the purchase of a two-seat vehicle with adaptive controls and rear wheelchair access. “We do thank God, the community and others for it turning out as well as it did,” Martha said. With fine support from other relatives, area churches and others in the Minot community, including NDAD, McLeod agreed, “This was not one of those things that was going to be a failure.” ■

# Ray Helgoe

*Scooter provided by NDAD bolsters Cavalier resident's lifestyle*



*“(NDAD) has been a great experience for me. And if you need any help with anything, just give them a call and they might be able to help you.”*

**Ray Helgoe**

“Yep, NDAD has been excellent,” Ray Helgoe said. He was speaking from his apartment in Cavalier, near where he was raised on a family farm.

He appreciates charitable NDAD “for all the things they’ve done to help and having the things I need,” he said. “And the people are so nice. Lora’s been soooo nice. Very helpful, yep.”

Lora Machart is NDAD’s client services representative for northeast North Dakota. She started helping Ray several years ago when he was living in Grand Forks.

Helgoe said he first used NDAD when he borrowed a cane in 2016 and then several years later a shower chair through our charity’s Healthcare Equipment Loan Program.

He’s received help for some other things since, including obtaining compression garments.

“And,” Ray added, “helping get the scooter.”

Helgoe lives with chronic pain after experiencing lumbar fractures in his back. He uses a walker to help move around short distances, but applied for NDAD assistance to obtain a scooter in April 2021 to help him with longer mobility challenges in town.

“I was trying to get it through (another source),” he said, “but my insurance wouldn’t cover it. So I went to NDAD.”

The following month, Ray had a scooter, which he uses regularly during suitable weather in Cavalier. He also uses Pembina County Transit for other trips.

Helgoe says he doesn’t hesitate to recommend NDAD to others who may need it, including his sister who works at a care facility.

“It’s been a great help,” he said. ■

## Escape to the Lake adaptive water-skiing planned June 18 near Center

NDAD’s long-running adaptive water recreation event for children and adults with disabilities, Escape to the Lake, is planned to return on Sat., June 18, after a two-year absence prompted by the COVID pandemic.

Held at Nelson Lake Recreation Area near Center, the free event includes water-skiing, pontoon rides, a performance ski show and catered picnic lunch. More information: (800) 532-NDAD, [lstastny@ndad.org](mailto:lstastny@ndad.org) or [NDAD.org](http://NDAD.org).

# NDAD awards additional adaptive recreation grants

Four area organizations serving people with disabilities were awarded adaptive recreation grants of up to \$5,000 each in December by NDAD.

In total, NDAD awarded eight such grants during 2021.

The second-round recipients and their projects:

- HOPE, Inc., Fargo, to help keep costs lower for adaptive activity equipment and facility rental fees needed by participants with mobility challenges and their families, and help offer activity scholarships to families under financial stress.

- Annie's House Adaptive Recreation Program, Bottineau, to help provide operational costs and upgrades for its StoryWalk, an inclusive outdoor book-reading loop trail. The program plans to add mobile sign bases, interchangeable sign backers

and other sustainable assistive touches.

- Enrichment Operation, Moorhead, Minn., to provide twice-weekly strength and conditioning fitness classes, with transportation, for roughly 15 mostly at-risk middle school students to help them develop and sustain healthy habits and relationships in a supportive environment.

- Eventide Senior Living Communities, Fargo, to purchase a unique software-driven, 75-inch interactive touchscreen system that uses technology to help its residents engage with others, and continue to have purpose and meaningful cognitive, emotional, social, physical and spiritual connections.

NDAD is now accepting applications for its 2022 Gibbens Memorial Grant of up to \$5,000. The money is for programs intended to benefit at-risk populations. Details are available at [NDAD.org](http://NDAD.org).

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NDAD is a nonprofit, charitable organization founded by concerned citizens to assist mentally and physically disadvantaged people in North Dakota, many of whom are not eligible for services from other agencies. NDAD provides financial assistance through funds generated by both the organization and community projects. NDAD also provides information and referral services to help people receive assistance through other agencies, when possible.

*It's **AMAZING** what people can do when there's **help**.*

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You.**