



*helping others to help themselves*

**Summer 2023**

# Insider

## **NDAD'S MISSION:**

Enhance the quality of lives  
of individuals facing health challenges.

## Helping others to help others

### **Grant awards by NDAD create partnerships of service**

Charitable NDAD long has strived to help people with health challenges and disabilities in ways that do not duplicate resources or services already existing and available to those individuals.

By doing so, NDAD can make the most efficient use of our own resources to help as many people with needs as possible throughout North Dakota and directly adjacent border communities. And our information and referral efforts also help people find where help is available.

Still, adding new NDAD programs isn't always the most effective path to meet need. Sometimes "Helping Others to Help Themselves" is by lending support to new or expanding nonprofit projects or service efforts made by our nonprofit neighbors.

NDAD's Gibbens Memorial Grant and Adaptive Recreation Grant programs have provided grant monies totaling close to \$150,000 to about 30 programs and projects since 2015, including a program for transitional students (right; see Page 2). The grants are making a difference, as this Insider issue highlights.



**INSIDE:** 2nd life for 1st Gibbens Memorial Grant project | 2023 awards  
Scenes from a great Escape | Williston office's new client services representative

## 2nd life for 1st Gibbens grantee

*Coffee Time project again helping transitioning students learn while serving others*



**Coffee Time server Adam Geray**

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**COVER PHOTO: Server Kevin Guerra**

When the pandemic arrived, the Coffee Time cart's run at MSU ended. "That coffee cart sat for a few years," said paraeducator Kathleen Grandalen. "We're lucky now it's still going."

These days, the cart operates in nearby Portland, helping turn GST Independent Living Center's The Clubhouse - located in the former thrift store - into a community hotspot gathering space for crafters, bingo players and other "gamers," plus various events. Transitional students are serving coffee again while getting "a sense of self-confidence," Grandalen said. "They love positive feedback, and it's a good conversation piece, too."

Students learn and practice social and vocational skills, including money recognition and usage, that will help them throughout life, added Erin Overmoe, transition special education teacher. She says The Clubhouse has "really built a sense of community" - and Coffee Time has helped.

NDAD's inaugural Gibbens Memorial Grant in 2015 helped launch a collaborative entrepreneurial refreshment service at Mayville State University. It featured coffee served from a special serving cart by transitional students with disabilities from Griggs-Steele-Traill (GST) Special Education Cooperative.

When the pandemic arrived, the Coffee Time



**Overmoe (left) and Grandalen**

## 2023 Gibbens Memorial Grant Awards

NDAD awards at least one grant of up to \$5,000 annually to an agency/organization to be used for a health, welfare, social service or educational purpose for at-risk populations. The grant is named for NDAD's late co-founders and longtime organization leaders, Faye and Ron Gibbens.

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### Women's Care Center, Fargo

Grant money will be used to purchase course materials, booklets and supplies for "Raising Kids with Character" and "Strong Fathers," curricula class additions to the center's expanding Parenting and Life Skills Education and Training program.



### The Salvation Army, Grand Forks

As part of its annual back-to-school program, The Salvation Army will use grant money toward purchase of shoes for Grand Forks County and toddlers and school-age children in need.

### Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports, Minot

Prairie Grit will purchase two sports wheelchairs to add to its existing fleet of sports



wheelchairs used by youth and adults at camps, tournaments and open gym wheelchair activities that include basketball, tennis, flag football, pickle ball and dance classes.



### Minot Family YMCA

The Y will acquire a wheelchair specifically made for sand terrain and beach use to help provide better waterfront and lake shore access to guests with mobility issues at Triangle Y Camp near Garrison.

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*A second 2023 Gibbens Memorial Grant call for applications is planned this fall. Please follow NDAD.org and our Facebook page for updates.*

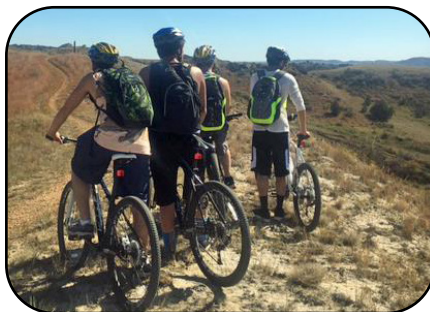


### NDAD's outreach

From Badlands adventure therapy to airport use “rehearsals,” from mobile food pantries to sports wheelchairs, NDAD's Gibbens Memorial and Adaptive Recreation Grants since 2015 have helped launch, enhance or sustain numerous projects to help children and adults in at-risk populations, including those with disabilities and health issues, throughout North Dakota and adjacent border communities:

#### Gibbens Memorial Grant recipients

- 2015** Griggs-Steele-Traill Special Education Cooperative  
Fraser, Ltd.
- Grafton Education Foundation
- 2016** Grand Forks YMCA  
Home on the Range
- 2017** Child Care Aware of N.D.  
Altru Health Foundation
- 2018** The Arc, Upper Valley
- 2019** Northlands Rescue Mission
- 2021** Northern Prairie Community Clinic (UND)  
N.D. Friends of Deaf Children Foundation  
House of Everyday Living  
Fraser, Ltd.
- 2022** Northlands Rescue Mission  
F5 Project  
United Way of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks and Area



#### Adaptive Recreation Grant recipients

- 2021** Glen Ullin Park District  
Prairie Grit Adaptive Sports  
Grand Forks Growth and Support Center  
TR 4 Heart and Soul  
HOPE Inc.
- 2022** Edinburg Playground Project  
Grand Forks YMCA  
Heartsprings Community Healing Center  
Missouri Valley Family YMCA  
Altru Family YMCA



#### 2023 NDAD Adaptive Recreation Grant Awards

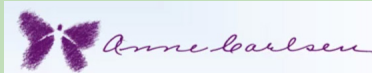
NDAD awards at least one grant of up to \$5,000 annually to nonprofit agencies/organizations that promote and support adaptive recreational activities for people with disabilities.

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##### Sunnyside Elementary School, Minot

The school will partner with Minot High School's Career and Technical Construction class while using NDAD grant money plus additional money from the school's parent-teacher association to build an accessible boat playground structure that provides an area students with limited mobility can both play and interact with classmates and other students.



##### Anne Carlsen Center, Jamestown

The grant will be used to work with Zot Artz organization's Arts for All program toward providing one-day accessible customized art events. Using specialized adaptive art equipment, such as “painting wheelchairs” for children with disabilities and individuals.



## 2023 Escape to the Lake a splashing success

NDAD's long-running adaptive water recreation event returned to Nelson Lake near Center on June 17 with longtime on-site partners Sporting Chance N.D. and the Aberdeen Aqua Addicts.

This year's free event attracted nearly 40 skiers with physical disabilities and an array of pontoon riders. Participants, their families and caregivers, and event volunteers also enjoyed a catered picnic lunch and an Aqua Addicts' high-performance ski show.

More photos and video on NDAD.org and NDAD's Facebook page. The 2024 Escape to the Lake also will be held in June.

## Porthen is new NDAD client services rep in Williston

Priscilla Porthen has begun work as the new client services representative for northwest North Dakota counties of Williams, Divide, McKenzie, Burke and Mountrail, including the cities of Williston, Watford City, Crosby, Tioga and Stanley.

Reach Priscilla at (888) 403-6323, (701) 774-0741 or by email at [williston@ndad.org](mailto:williston@ndad.org). NDAD's office is at Suite 295 in Williston's 20/20 Professional Center, 1500 14th St. W.



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**and follow our charity on social media**



### *Our charitable programs help with:*

Prescription Medications | Local Accessible Transit | Out-of-town Medical Travel  
Medical Equipment and Supplies | Adaptive Recreation  
Home and Vehicle Accessibility | Personal Attendant Care ... [and more!](#)

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NDAD was founded by concerned citizens for the purpose of assisting people in North Dakota with disabilities and health issues, many of whom were ineligible for services from other agencies. NDAD's reach also includes border communities in surrounding states.

If you would like to [donate](#) to NDAD's mission, please visit our [website](#) or [contact an NDAD office](#) near you.

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

**It's for  
You.**

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