



Annual Report

2016



**Florida
Disabled
Outdoors
Association**

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To Our Members



Dear Members,

I started at Florida Disabled Outdoors Association sixteen years ago as a volunteer and just kept coming back until it became my career. This is more than a job to me, it is my passion. Everytime someone has a breakthrough moment where they see all that is possible in this life or someone calls to see how they can help, I am renewed. This organization is not just one person or a small group of people; it is the people of ALL abilities coming together to make this world richer, more full and simply better.

This year we faced financial challenges which led to cuts in expenditures for part-time staff and outreach, but we had dedicated partners that still made programs possible for numerous people. We utilized in-kind donations and community resources and partners to offset the challenges. We were fortunate to maintain almost all of our programs. The following pages highlight the myriad achievements of this past year and the positive impact that was made.

Thank YOU for everything you do to enrich lives for people of all abilities!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "L. Gussak".

Laurie LoRe-Gussak, MBA, IOM, CAE
Executive Director

Programs

SPORTSABILITY™

- More than 500 participants attended the Leon / Wakulla program.
- Over 400 participants attended the Marion County program.
- 10,632 people registered for the SportsAbility Sampler at the Family Café in Orlando.
- More than \$178,000 of volunteer help and training donated.
- Over 35 Community Partners or Sponsors helped.





- Over 1,100 volunteer hours were logged.
- Over 550 hours of team sports for people with disabilities were played.
- Miracle Sports partnered with Florida State University (FSU) Seminole Athletics Program to offer two Seminole Showdowns.
- A Service Learning Program was developed with the FSU Sports Management Program.
- Year-round programs are offered and available to the public.

Community-based Therapeutic Recreation Program for People with Brain and Spinal Cord Injuries

This program, funded by the Florida Department of Health Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program, provides an education and resource referral to assist people with brain and spinal cord injuries in pursuing current recreation and leisure providers and available associate assistive services and technologies.



- FDOA provided information specifically dealing with physical activity for people with a brain injury to over 1,000 individuals.
- FDOA provided information specifically dealing with physical activity for people with a spinal cord injury to over 500 individuals.
- Educational programs were provided to healthcare professional at locations throughout Florida.
- Over 90 outreach events/programs were provided to over 20,000 attendees.

ALLOUT Adventure Program

An outdoor adventure program for people with disabilities. This program includes the mobility impaired hunting program, which is the benchmark for mobility-impaired hunts throughout the United States. The program also includes a variety of other outdoor adventure trips.

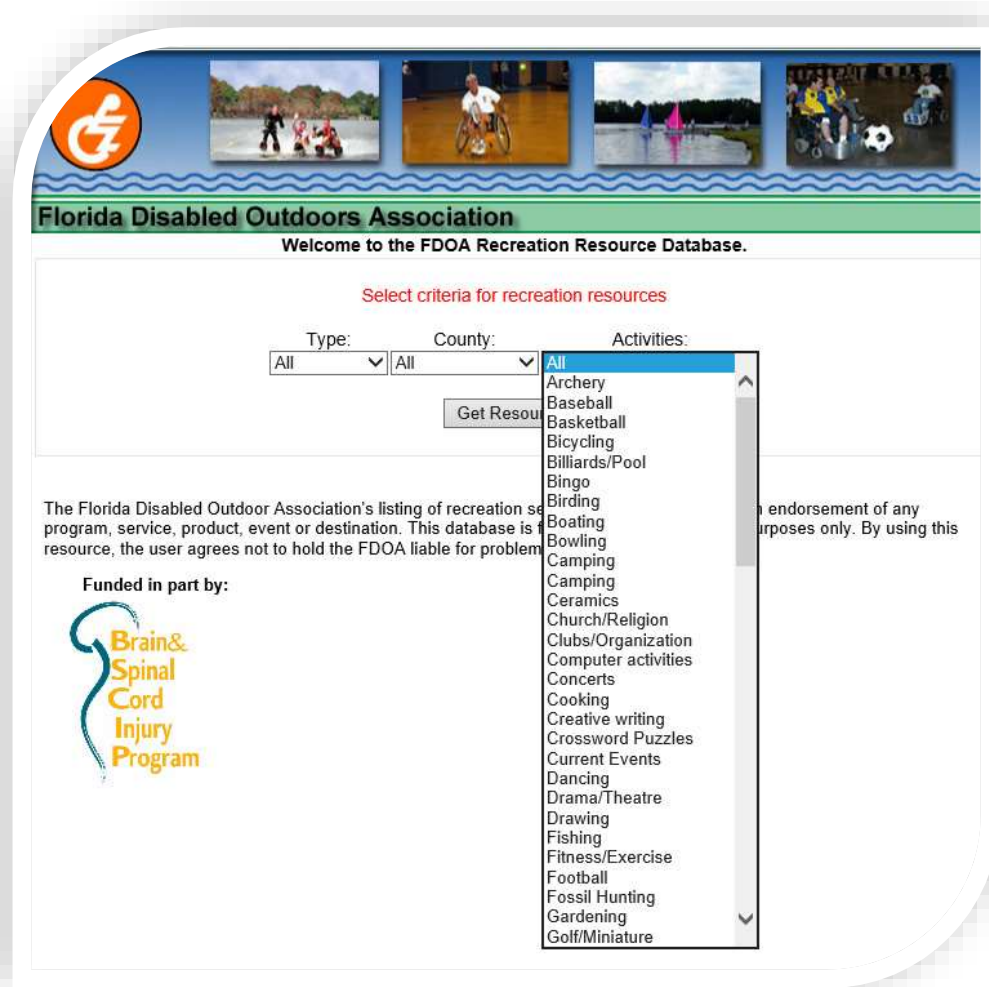
- Over 50 anglers with disabilities participated in the Hands Helping Anglers Program.
- Over 100 people of all abilities participated in the PotashCorp hunting and fishing trips.



Resource Referral Network

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association maintains a Resource Referral Network of accessible inclusive programs and services, products, destinations and events. The database is accessible electronically at fdoa.org/resources. It is searchable by county or type of resource.

The database is a virtual liaison between providers and participants helping people of all abilities find the providers that meet their area of interest. The database currently has approximately 1000 resources across Florida and beyond.



The screenshot shows the website interface for the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association's Recreation Resource Database. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the FDOA logo and four small images depicting people engaged in various outdoor activities. Below the navigation bar, the text reads "Welcome to the FDOA Recreation Resource Database." and "Select criteria for recreation resources".

The search interface includes three dropdown menus: "Type:" with "All" selected, "County:" with "All" selected, and "Activities:" with a list of activities. A "Get Resources" button is located below the "County:" dropdown. The activities list includes: Archery, Baseball, Basketball, Bicycling, Billiards/Pool, Bingo, Birding, Boating, Bowling, Camping, Ceramics, Church/Religion, Clubs/Organization, Computer activities, Concerts, Cooking, Creative writing, Crossword Puzzles, Current Events, Dancing, Drama/Theatre, Drawing, Fishing, Fitness/Exercise, Football, Fossil Hunting, Gardening, and Golf/Miniature.

Below the search interface, there is a disclaimer: "The Florida Disabled Outdoor Association's listing of recreation services, program, service, product, event or destination. This database is for informational purposes only. By using this resource, the user agrees not to hold the FDOA liable for problems." and a section titled "Funded in part by:" with the logo for the "Brain & Spinal Cord Injury Program".

Return on Investment

We leverage revenues to fulfill our mission.

- We provide cost saving to society through our programs.
- We deliver meaningful education and advocacy to the community.
- We strengthen the community through partnerships and collaborations.
- We supplement our funding sources with donated goods and services and utilizing the power of volunteers and student involvement.



Board of Directors / Advisory Board

Board of Directors

David C. Jones, President

Gordon Palmer, Vice President

Michael Isaacson, Treasurer

Kristy Carter, Secretary

David Lowe, Director at Large



Advisory Board

George Coaker

Judi Collins

David Damon

Jeff Douglas

John Maslar

Hersch Minnis

Ryland Musick

Bill Redmon

Curtis Richardson

Pernille Urban

Cindy Weier

Partners

Florida Disabled Outdoors Association gratefully thanks these partners and all of our other important contributors.



[Florida Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program](#)



[Tallahassee Community College \(TCC\) / TCC Conferences and Events](#)



[Kiwanis of the Big Bend](#)



[Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission](#)



[Florida State Parks](#)



[Florida Association of Rehabilitative Facilities](#)



[United Way of the Big Bend](#)



[Shields Marina](#)



[Disabled Sports USA](#)



[Ocala Parks and Recreation](#)



[Gatorland Orlando](#)



[On the Edge Children's Foundation](#)



[Stirrups n' Strides](#)



[The Family Cafe](#)

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