



NISRA  
Northern Illinois  
Special Recreation Association

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A good friend and mentor once said to me, “Working in the field of recreation is like working on a dairy farm...you have to get up and do it every day”. Having spent many a summer’s days at my grandparent’s dairy farm, I can appreciate this sentiment. As with milking cows, enriching the lives of people with disabilities through meaningful recreation experiences is an everyday commitment. The work of “fun” is never done!

NISRA is thankful for all of the wonderful partners committed to providing outstanding community inclusive therapeutic recreation services to the greater McHenry, Kane and Lake County region. It starts with the 13 members (8 Park Districts & 5 Municipalities) who provide funding support and host NISRA’s recreation programs in their facilities. Their staff provide a welcoming environment to have fun and learn new skills.

The NISRA Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, is a critical partner in generating additional resources for special projects, accessible transportation, Special Olympics, adaptive equipment, and innovative programs. This generous team of donors, volunteers, and fundraising event participants recognize the value of fun. They unselfishly give their time and money to insure a quality of life for all.

Nothing is possible without those who give time and talent as staff and volunteers for program services. NISRA is only as good as the people who deliver that service, and thankfully, the NISRA staff and volunteers are second to none!

NISRA is blessed to have such excellent support. Thank you to the participants, their families and caregivers for engaging NISRA in providing fun, professional, compassionate, trustworthy, and innovative programs.

Thank you for allowing NISRA to be a part of your life. May you and all you hold dear to you have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Peace and kindness to all,



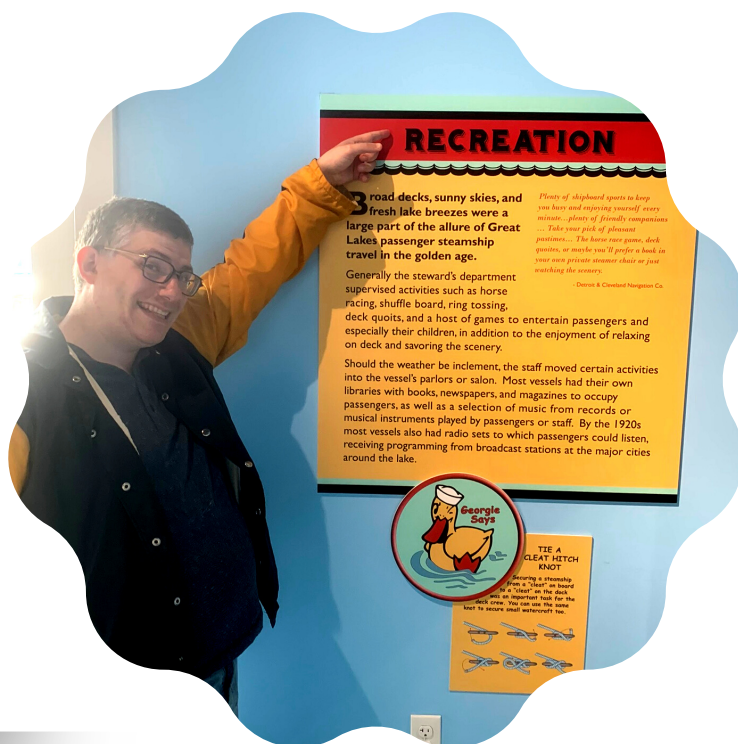
Executive Director



# ENRICHING THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH MEANINGFUL RECREATION EXPERIENCES...

**The Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association (NISRA) is an extension of 13 park districts and municipalities:**

- Barrington Park District
- Cary Park District
- Crystal Lake Park District
- Dundee Township Park District
- City of Elgin
- Hampshire Township Park District
- City of Harvard
- Huntley Park District
- Village of Lake in the Hills
- Marengo Park District
- City of McHenry
- Wauconda Park District
- City of Woodstock



NISRA is governed by a board composed of **representatives from each of the member districts**. The member districts provide policy, financial support and space for NISRA programs in their recreation facilities.

NISRA was honored twice with the prestigious **National Gold Medal Award** for excellence in park and recreation management. In addition, NISRA programs and staff have earned local and state recognition with many other awards.

## 2021 - 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(MAY 2021 - APRIL 2022)

|                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Terry Jennings</b> | Barrington Park District         |
| <b>Dan Jones</b>      | Cary Park District               |
| <b>Jason Herbster</b> | Crystal Lake Park District       |
| <b>Dave Peterson</b>  | Dundee Township Park District    |
| <b>Maria Cumpata</b>  | City of Elgin                    |
| <b>Laura Schraw</b>   | Hampshire Township Park District |
| <b>Ryan Knop</b>      | City of Harvard                  |

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Thom Palmer</b>  |
| <b>Kim Buscemi</b>  |
| <b>Dan Bertrand</b> |
| <b>Bill Hobson</b>  |
| <b>Nancy Burton</b> |
| <b>Dave Zinnen</b>  |

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| Huntley Park District        |
| Village of Lake in the Hills |
| Marengo Park District        |
| City of McHenry              |
| Wauconda Park District       |
| City of Woodstock            |



# ANNUAL AWARDS & HIGHLIGHTS

Staff and immediate families/caregivers paid tribute to individual award winners and community supporters at the Annual Recognition Night on March 16, 2022.

## Participant Awards

### Rising Star

Staci Kamper

### Dynamic Duo

Lennox McGary & Max Wicko

### North Star

Kassandra Michalski

### Achievement Award

Luke Kuhfahl

### Performer of the Year

Matthew Hedrich

### Athlete of the Year

Sabrina Veverka

### Most Improved Athlete

Ernesto Enriquez

## NISRA & NISRA Foundation Awards

### Comet Award

Greg Boone

### Shooting Star

Carol Lee

### Volunteer of the Year

Gregory "Greg" Schneider

### Family Member of the Year

Dana McCurry

### Rising Star

Staci Kamper

### Cosmic Camp Staff

Sarah Salinas

### NISRA Exceptional Community Partners

Color Me Mine, Crystal Lake

Classic Cinema, Woodstock

Bowlero, Algonquin

### NISRA Values Recognition

#### Fun

Robert "Bobby" LaRue

#### Professional

Jordan Stoltz

#### Compassionate

Maxwell Lewis

#### Trustworthy

Ashley Wright

#### Innovative

Elizabeth Wilhelm



## NISRA Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Assets - Year Ended April 30, 2022

### Operating Revenues

|                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Member District Dues             | \$ 1,966,863     |
| Program Fees                     | 310,217          |
| Contributions/Grants/Fundraising | 162,811          |
| Miscellaneous-Interest           | 6,632            |
| <b>Total Operating Revenues</b>  | <b>2,446,523</b> |

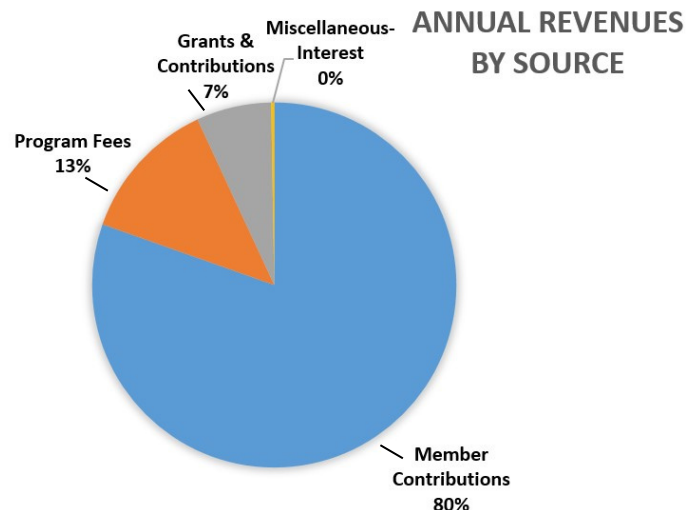
### Operating Expenses

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Special Recreation Services     | \$ 2,251,115     |
| Capital                         | 32,372           |
| Debt Service                    | 131,324          |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b> | <b>2,414,811</b> |

**Change in Fund Net Position** 31,712

### Net Position:

|                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Beginning of Year</b> | <b>690,543</b> |
| <b>End of Year</b>       | <b>722,255</b> |





# HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 1976, NISRA has provided year-round recreation activities for local children, teens and adults with disabilities. These noteworthy highlights and achievements occurred during NISRA and the NISRA Foundation's fiscal year May 2021 - April 2022.

We began our fiscal year with the long awaited return of in-person programming, fundraisers, and training. NISRA staff and participants were ecstatic to come back together again and have fun!

## A Quick Recap...

- The NISRA Foundation returned in-person for the 26th Annual Holiday Fashion Show, resulting in the highest net revenue for the Foundation
- In collaboration with Pioneer Center, the Bright Program officially opened in October of 2021 at Deicke Park in Huntley
- NISRA offered new programs such as Buddy Baseball, Special Olympics Floor Hockey, Learn to Rock Climb, Splash Pad & Playground Tour, and the induction of seasonal Family Programs (and more!)
- Kingpins Drumline held its first performance showcasing the talented and rhythmic NISRA participants in collaboration with the Crystal Lake Strikers
- An overall increase of new participants and registrations for special events, social clubs, and Special Olympics
- NISRA staff attended various trainings for behavioral management, ability awareness, transportation, inclusion, and trends in autism
- The 2nd Magical Holiday Drive-Thru was yet again another success where participants and their families visited festive stations and ended with a visit from Santa
- The NISRA Teaching Kitchen, a highly used area for cooking and baking programs, received new appliances, décor, and fresh paint



## PARTICIPATION 2021 - 2022

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Individuals Served                   | 901   |
| Total Program Registrations          | 5,108 |
| Inclusion Assistance for Individuals | 125   |
| Inclusion Assistance for Programs    | 244   |



# THE NISRA FOUNDATION

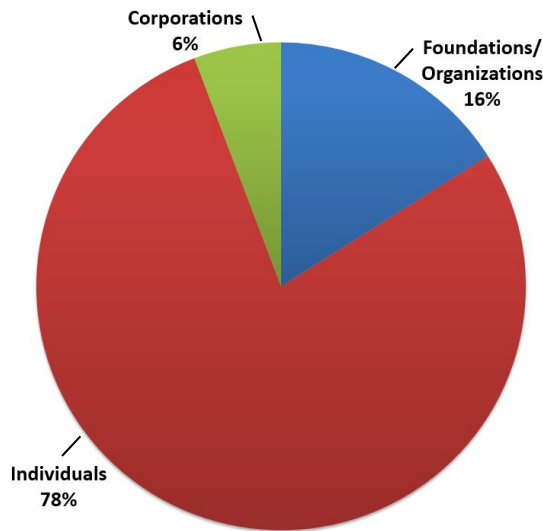
*The NISRA Foundation contributes resources to support and assist NISRA's mission of enriching the lives of people with disabilities through meaningful recreation experiences.*

Created in 1991, The NISRA Foundation raises funds to support some of NISRA's unique programs and capital projects.

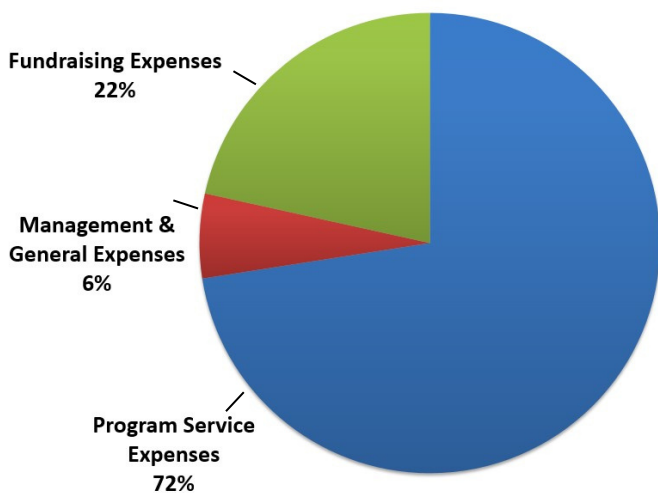
We know people have choices when it comes to charitable giving and we're grateful when you choose to place your financial supports - and confidence - in the NISRA Foundation.

Passionate to support NISRA's mission, we are dedicated to producing results. Full audited financials and our most recent IRS Form 990 are available.

## Revenue Sources



## Allocation of Expenses



### For every \$1.00 given to the NISRA Foundation:

- 72 cents goes to Program Service Expenses
- 24 cents goes to Fundraising Expenses
- 4 cents goes to Management & General Expenses

## NISRA Foundation Statement of Activities for the Year Ending April 30, 2022

### Public Support & Revenues

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Special Events                             |                |
| Special Events Revenue                     | \$ 134,600     |
| Less: Costs of Direct                      |                |
| Benefits to Donors                         | 50,243         |
| Net Special Events Revenue                 | 84,357         |
| Contributions                              | 89,270         |
| Donated Services                           | 52,950         |
| Interest                                   | 15             |
| Net Assets Released                        |                |
| From Restrictions                          | 0              |
| <b>Total Public Support &amp; Revenues</b> | <b>226,592</b> |

### Expenses & Losses

|                                    |                |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Functional Expenses                |                |
| Program Services                   |                |
| Outgoing Grants                    | 117,839        |
| In-kind Goods & Services           | 52,950         |
| Staff Development                  | 35,000         |
| Office Expenses & Supplies         | 9,625          |
| Fundraising                        | 0              |
| <b>Total Expenses &amp; Losses</b> | <b>215,414</b> |

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Change in Net Assets</b> | <b>11,178</b> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|

### Net Assets:

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Beginning of Year</b> | <b>80,798</b> |
| <b>End of Year</b>       | <b>91,976</b> |

Note: The NISRA Foundation's purpose is to provide financial support for NISRA program services. The NISRA Foundation Board of Directors made a conscious decision to reduce the Foundation's financial reserves by granting additional financial resources above what was raised in FY 2020/2021 in order to benefit NISRA program participants. NISRA is grateful for this Board action.

## 2020 - 21 NISRA Foundation Board Members

(May 2021 - April 2022)

Julie Amendt

Kim Buscemi

Rochelle Donahue, Vice President

Dawn Goerger, Treasurer

Tad Gralewski

Annette Hammortree, President

Pat Kallaus

Amy MacCrindle

Thom Palmer

Jim Wiseman, Secretary



# THE NISRA FOUNDATION

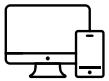
*Give the Gift of Fun!*

## Volunteer

- Assist at an event
- Join an event committee
- Serve on the Foundation Board of Directors



## AmazonSmile



**1** Go to:  
[smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)



**2** Select the NISRA Foundation  
as your charity



**3** Support the Foundation with  
every purchase!

## Donate

- Make a donation
- Secure raffle or auction items
- Leave a legacy by remembering NISRA in your will or estate plan
- Sponsor one of our many FUNdraising events
- Ask your employer about their matching gift program
- Donate every time you shop with AmazonSmile



## Tell Family & Friends

- NISRA has great programs
- Spread the word about Foundation events
- Like our social media pages and join in on the fun!



# NISRA & NISRA FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTORS

*Thank you to those who made financial donations or supported fundraisers during the fiscal year, May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022.*

A Salute to our Heroes Foundation  
Abbott Laboratories  
Abbvie Foundation  
Mukra & Saurabh Agarwal  
Lynn & Thomas Akers  
Bev & Dave Albright  
Chad Alexander  
CyberGrants Allstate Employee Giving  
Cynthia Alters  
Nancy & Eric Andersen  
Ann Arnold  
Associated Electrical Contractors LLC  
Aurelius Golf  
Doris & Alex Aussin  
Linda Austin  
Cassandra Bajak  
Julie & Roger Baldwin  
Wendy Ballschmiede  
Sharon Baranowski  
Patricia Barnard  
Barrington Township  
Barrington Transportation Company  
Deborah & Carl Barthel  
Nutashia Baynes  
Becky Beck  
Deborah Bennett  
Bergen County's United Way  
Ralph Bernstein  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church West Dundee  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church Elgin  
Kathleen Betke  
Chrissy Betts  
Christine Betz  
Kevin Biestek  
Mary Bishop  
Catherine & Jay Bjork  
Bob Boyle  
Madi Braje  
Sherry Branecki  
Valarie Braun  
Robin Brooks  
Anne Marie Brown  
Charlotte Brown  
Christy Bruski  
Elaine Bruso  
John Buckley  
Audra & Scott Buckner  
Jeannine Budreck  
Bunker Hill Charities  
Anthony Camasta  
Joseph Camasta  
Michael Camasta  
Mary Caporale  
M Caramela  
Noelle Carani  
Tami Carlsen  
Kristie Carlson  
Peggy Carney  
Cary Park District  
Debora & Daniel Cavanaugh  
Margaret Charpentier  
Ed Chmiel  
City of Elgin  
City of Woodstock  
Natalie & Mark Cluts  
Brittney Collins  
Elizabeth & Matthew Collins  
Christine Comstock  
Eldon Conley  
Sue Connor  
Consumers CO-OP Association

Kathy & Joe Cook  
John Cooke  
Kathleen Cooker  
Lenore Cornille  
Debbie Crombleholme  
Scott Crowe  
Crystal Lake Park District  
Laura Cullotta  
Jillian Cunny  
Hannah Czarnecki  
Janet & Jim Czarnecki  
John Czerwinski  
Carol Dalton  
Marlene Daubert  
Don De Lordo  
Pamela & Keith Dean  
Deborah DeBaets  
Alpha Theta Chapter Delta Kappa Gamma  
Deborah Devine  
Brian DiBona  
Sue Dobbe-Leahy  
Rochelle & Edward Donahue  
Marka Donovan  
Jay Dower  
Nancy Doyle  
Mary Dudek  
Dundee Township Lions Club  
Dundee Township Park District  
Alan Dunker  
Martha Durcan  
Jamie & Spencer Edgar  
Beth & Jay Edwards  
Kathleen & Mark Ehrlich  
Becki & Tim Enck  
Roxann Engelstad  
Loretta Erickson  
Renee Erling  
Jess Etten  
Anna Faber  
Kathleen Miller Faber  
FedEx  
Mary Feffer  
Lore & Scott Fehrman  
Anita Ferino  
Amy Ferraro  
The Fidelity Charitable  
First National Bank of Omaha  
Jamie Fletcher  
Fox River Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery  
Kelly Freeman  
Lynn Froeming  
Ronald Gabel  
Nancy Gentile  
Susan Giese  
Danny Giffin  
Debra Gillespie  
Jake Gilluly  
Emily Glade  
Michael Gleason  
Kelly Gnewuch  
Dawn Goerger  
Eryn Goodman  
Kathryn & Dennis Goodman  
Regina & Ed Graafsma  
Kenneth Graef  
Denise Graff Ponstein  
Rachel Graham  
Tad Gralewski  
Chris Grannis  
Jane & William Graves  
Linda Gray

Pamela Gray  
Sharon Griffin  
Jill Hader  
Erin Haefling  
Brooke Haffner  
Thomas Haley  
Linda Hamann  
Annette Hammortree  
Darlene Hank  
Cynthia & David Harper  
Lonny Harris  
Andy Haszlakiewicz  
Terry & John Hauserman  
Cheryl Hayes  
Andrea Hein  
Laura Helstrom  
Bonnie Heredia  
Heritage Title Company  
Dawn Hermiller  
Bernadette Hewlett  
Heather Holinbeck  
Jennifer & Brian Hora  
Sophie Horak  
Katherine & Andrew Horn  
Catherine Hoster  
Patricia & Richard Hoster  
Krista Huffman  
Sandra Hughes  
Jeanette Huss  
Pam Iacullo  
Barbara & Robert Ickes  
Randy Inman  
JA Frate  
Ellen & Cliff Jackson  
Erik Jakubowski  
Nancy Jamrozek  
Susan Jennings  
Fran & Jon Jepsen  
George Johnson  
Patty Johnson  
Theresa Johnson  
Nancy Jones  
Erin Jozwiak  
Susan Just  
Nikki Justes  
Patricia & Michael Kallaus  
Amy Kananen  
Ed Kapelinski  
James Kapelinski  
Karla Schneider  
Kathleen Kathleen  
Craig Kattner  
Lisa Kearney  
Debra & Steven Keehn  
Margaret & John Keehn  
Mary Kendzora  
Laura King  
Terri King  
Sue Kirby  
Mary & Wayne Kirkpatrick  
Knights of Columbus Council #10678  
Knights of Columbus Council #1204  
Knights of Columbus Council #13034  
Knights of Columbus Council #14294  
Knights of Columbus Council #3880  
Knights of Columbus Council #11091  
Christine Knox  
Lindsey Knox  
Kasey Koch  
Blake Kotel  
Dawn Krahrl



# NISRA & NISRA FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTORS

*Thank you to those who made financial donations or supported fundraisers during the fiscal year, May 1, 2021 - April 30, 2022.*

Jason Krigas  
Amy Kuhns  
Barbara Kuhr-O`toole  
Donna Kurtz-Minkus  
Jeff Kwit  
Jude LaFrancis  
Steven Lamp  
Abbi Lantz  
Elise Larsen  
Law Offices of Donahue & Walsh  
Leslie Lawson  
Tom Lawson  
Cyndy & Reginald Layoff  
Lori Lea  
Lance Lhotka  
Mary Lisk  
JJ Little  
Lucille Little  
Sandy Little  
Patricia & Greg Lofgren  
Earl Lomelino  
Julia Long  
Jacqueline Loughran  
Mari & Jean Marc Loustaunau  
Barbara Lulling  
Susan Lyneis  
Amy MacCrimble  
Elizabeth Mack  
Lynn Mackeben  
Jen Magnelli  
Danielle Mains  
Carol Malmgren  
Anita Mandell  
Marie Marciniak  
Phyllis Marciniak  
Tabatha Mcallister  
Rita McDade  
Julie McDonough  
Tammie McGue-William  
Fran McKinley  
Dona McLaughlin  
Theresa & Michael McLaughlin  
Lara McLennan  
Richard Meining  
Mental Health Resource League of McHenry County  
Michael Meziere  
Justin Michael  
Midland National  
Sandra & Craig Mijares  
Brenda Miller  
Leela Miller  
Miller Verchota, Inc.  
Linda Mitsch  
Jacqui Moore  
Rebecca & Adam Moore  
Maureen Motroni  
Alison & Mike Mueller  
Terry & Michael Mueller  
Kathy Mumm  
Debra & Richard Naponelli  
National Philanthropic Trust  
Melanie Nebel  
Nelson Construction & Remodeling Inc  
Jill & Tom Nierman  
Northrup Grumman  
Northwestern Medicine  
Barbara Norwick-Johnson  
Patrick O`Came  
Amy O`Hare  
Dace & Jeff Olson

Ryan Ortmann  
Amy Ostrowski  
Ann Marie OSullivan  
Karen & Gary Ottaviano  
Katie Ozimek  
Lorraine & Marion Pacocha  
Brett Palmer  
Dan Palmer  
Rachel Papierniak  
Vita Pascua  
Eleanor & John Patterson  
Dan Payson  
Chris Pelke  
Janet Peterson  
Jennifer Peterson  
Kurt Peterson  
Janet & Jeffrey Petrovich  
Gennine Pfau  
Christie Pfeiffer  
Jennifer Piacenza  
Doug Pierce  
Valerie Pierobon  
Mary Pifer  
Norine & Arthur Plagens  
Meredith & Stephen Poczalski  
David Price  
Nazario Ramirez  
Andrea Recchia  
Suzanne Reiker  
Connie Reiser  
Donna & Michael Renner  
Michelle Reuter  
Johanna Reyes  
Douglas Rice  
Sue Rickert  
Jeannie Ridings  
Mike Rigoni  
Bobbi Jo Rittmann  
Shari & Mark Roach  
Gayle Rosborough  
Rotary Club of Crystal Lake Dawnbreakers  
Joanne roth  
Lynne Rzeszutko  
Michelle Sacchitello  
Sage Legacy Fund  
William Sauer  
Debra Schmidt  
Lori & Gregory Schneider  
Jackie Schneider  
Rose & Butch Schnulle  
Kelly Schnulle  
Lisa & Thomas Schreiner  
Julie Schullian  
Penny Schultz  
Mary Schwan  
Mary Schweda  
Glenn Scoggins  
Jane Scott  
Judith Sedlack  
Sally Selcke  
Janice Selden  
Michele Shepard  
Donna Shum  
Starr & Jack Shum  
Sherry Silvern  
Sue Simon  
Chloe Skoriya  
Connie Smith  
Kristi Smith  
Sapnaben Ritesh Soni

Tracy Stanko  
Melina & Chris Stanton  
Gioergette Starr  
Tim Staton  
Robert Staudt  
Linda & David Steffen  
Doug Steltz  
Nick Stober  
Heidi Stolt  
Stryker  
Stella Ling & Songjie Su  
Mary Suire  
Sandra Dooley & Jack Sullivan  
Christopher Sychta  
Aaron Szalaj  
Natalie Terzich  
Patty Terzich  
The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
The Freeze  
Noel Thelander  
Amy Thiede  
Bev & Larry Thomas  
Jan Thompson  
Jill Thompson  
Kim Thomson  
Theresa Tichy  
Linda & Herm Timm  
Israel Tinajero  
Jorge Tirado  
Emily & Jared Todd  
Jennifer Tomsa-Wuchter  
Top Cats  
Denise Torrey  
Barb Tracy  
Brenda Tracy  
Kris Travis  
Cynthia & John Treanor  
Lisa Tworek  
Mr Timothy Urban  
Grace Urquhart  
Jessie & Carl Vainisi  
Beth Van Dumme  
Jane Vitro  
Volunteer Center McHenry County  
Roberta Wajrowski - Calabrese  
Cathy Wallis  
Pamela Wallis  
Rich Wallis  
Marilyn Webel  
Amy Weiler  
Ashley Weseloh  
Laurnell White  
Kathleen & Michael Whitehead  
Margaret & Steven Wienckowski  
Deborah & Travis Wilbert  
Pamela & James Williams  
Margaret Williams  
Deborah & James Wiseman  
Mary & Norbert Wojcik  
Dave Wolfe  
Deb & John Worley  
Ava Yustin  
Zanck, Coen, Wright & Saladin, P.C.  
Seanette Zappel  
Angela Zhao-Madden  
Sara Zielinski  
Barbara & Michael Zimmerman  
Dave Zinnen  
Abby Zuniga  
Shelley Zuniga

## Our Mission:

Enrich the lives of people with disabilities  
through meaningful recreation experiences.

## Our Vision:

To be a community of limitation-free recreation.

## Our Values:

Fun ~ Professional ~ Compassionate ~ Trustworthy ~ Innovative



## Outgoing Grants & Expenses

With its 2022 grant to NISRA, the NISRA Foundation exceeded \$2.4 million in cumulative contributions to NISRA! The outstanding effort of Foundation Board members, committee and event volunteers, and donors made it possible for the Foundation to allocate the following grants in early 2022 to NISRA for these 2021-22 programs and projects:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Staffing/Office Support .....                              | \$ 35,000 |
| NISRA Seasonal Program Scholarships .....                  | 25,000    |
| Accessible Bus Replacement & Participant Transportation .. | 23,275    |
| Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies Veteran's Program .....       | 11,700    |
| Partner Fundraising .....                                  | 11,000    |
| Recreation Program Equipment & Supplies .....              | 9,450     |
| Inclusion Services .....                                   | 9,000     |
| Special Olympics Athlete Assistance & Equipment .....      | 7,100     |
| Family Event Program Support .....                         | 5,000     |
| Participant, Volunteer & Staff Recognition Night.....      | 5,000     |
| Specialty Program Service Support .....                    | 4,910     |
| Technology Support & Upgrades .....                        | 3,404     |
| Promotional Video Development .....                        | 2,000     |
| Student Scholarship Fund .....                             | 1,000     |

**Total Contribution to NISRA..... 152,839**



# NISRA

Northern Illinois  
Special Recreation Association

285 Memorial Drive  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014  
(815) 459-0737

[www.nisra.org](http://www.nisra.org) | [info@nisra.org](mailto:info@nisra.org)

