

Fun Professional Compassionate Trustworthy Innovative

Compassionate



Professional

Trustworthy Innovative

Innovative Fun

Trustworthy

Fun Professional

NISRA
Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association
Annual Report
2018-19

Professional

Innovative Fun



Innovative

Trustworthy



Compassionate

Innovative Fun Professional



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Message from the Executive Director

“Team work makes the dream work,” a catchy phrase commonly used in youth sports to foster a culture of cooperation, collaboration and focus in order to motivate a team to pull together to achieve great results. The NISRA “team” embodies this saying every day by enriching the lives of people with disabilities through meaningful recreation experiences.

Special Recreation Associations became a possibility in 1969 when a bi-partisan team of legislators created legislation allowing park districts and municipalities to join together to form cooperative services for residents with disabilities. Three years later the legislators went a step further in creating the local funding process through the tax levy to insure adequate funding for these services.

In addition to financial support and board member involvement, the “teams” from the member park districts and municipalities provide recreation space in their facilities for NISRA programs. The members also provide lifeguards, maintenance personnel, building supervisors, oversight by administrative and management staff, and sometimes specialty program staff to provide inclusion for all residents in their agency’s own programs.

NISRA is fortunate to also have a group of “special teams players,” commonly known as the NISRA Foundation. The board and volunteers of the Foundation, along with donors, play a critical role in generating additional financial support in order to fund scholarships for those in financial need, participant transportation services, innovative programming, and Special Olympics training and competition. For the first time since its inception in 1991, the Foundation exceeded \$2 million in cumulative contributions to NISRA!

The NISRA staff and volunteers are star players that shine every day in providing direct service to those served by NISRA. This outstanding group of superstars works creatively, within budget limitations, to deliver quality recreation programs that live up to the agency’s core values of Fun, Professional, Compassionate, Trustworthy and Innovative.

Combine all of this positive energy and you get championship level service for the real stars: the participants in NISRA programs and their families. We’re grateful for your trust and support.

Thank you to everyone on the NISRA Team for your continuing support. Your teamwork makes the dream a reality in providing a higher quality of life and health for the wonderful children, teens and adults with special needs in our communities. The best of holiday wishes to you and all you hold dear.

Sincerely, 

Jim Wiseman
Executive Director





NISRA...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.

2018-19 Board of Directors

(May 2018-April 2019)

Terry Jennings	<i>Barrington Park District</i>
Dan Jones	<i>Cary Park District</i>
Jason Herbster	<i>Crystal Lake Park District</i>
Dave Peterson	<i>Dundee Township Park District</i>
Maria Cumpata	<i>City of Elgin</i>
Laura Schraw	<i>Hampshire Township Park District</i>
Ryan Knop	<i>City of Harvard</i>
Thom Palmer	<i>Huntley Park District</i>
Megan Sandven	<i>Village of Lake in the Hills</i>
Joseph Vallez	<i>Marengo Park District</i>
Bill Hobson	<i>City of McHenry</i>
Nancy Burton	<i>Wauconda Park District</i>
Dave Zinnen	<i>City of Woodstock</i>



"Jennifer was so supportive and encouraging. Her assistance is the real reason we tried NISRA. I'm so glad we did this."

-parent

Annual Awards & Highlights

Nearly 200 guests paid tribute to individual award winners and community supporters at the Annual Recognition Night on March 19, 2019.

Participant Awards

- Stephen McCluggage Courage Award*
- Shannon Cervantes
- North Star Award (longevity)*
- Alexis Windsor
- Rising Star Award*
- Rachel Regan
- Artist of the Year*
- Mark Serritella
- Athlete of the Year*
- Thomas Quast
- Most Improved Athlete*
- Sam Lenihan



NISRA & NISRA Foundation Awards

- Volunteer of the Year*
- Katie Granahan
- Part-time Staff "Comet"*
- Rebecca Balongag
- Part time Staff "Shooting Star" (longevity)*
- Heather Hetzel
- Family Members of the Year*
- Maria Lopez
 - Karina Aguilar
- NISRA Foundation Outstanding Volunteer*
- Rochelle Donahue
- NISRA Exceptional Community Partners*
- Community Foundation for McHenry County
 - Master Gardeners/U of I Extension
 - McHenry County Conservation District
- NISRA Board President*
- Thom Palmer
- NISRA Foundation Board President*
- Rochelle Donahue

"Great variety of classes. Not too competitive, but enough to challenge [participants]."

-parent



Contributors

Thanks to those who sponsored a participant:

- Shannon Cervantes
- Courtney Fejedelem
- Paul Minkus
- Becky Simpson
- Bob Staudt
- Jim Wiseman

NISRA Values Recognition

- Fun:* Allison Green
Professional: Becky Simpson
Compassionate: Teresa Ramirez
Trustworthy: Donna Sather
Innovative: Jill Toomey-Viktora



In Memoriam

We fondly remember our friends who passed from us May 2018-April 2019.

- Gerri Fitzgerald
- Riley Irvin
- Inga (Laura) Johnson
- Melissa Ann Mayber

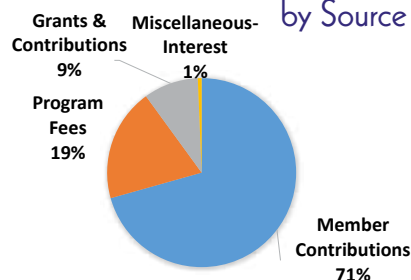
NISRA Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets—Year Ended April 30, 2019

Operating Revenues

Member district dues	\$ 1,900,385
Program fees	488,113
Contributions/Grants/Fundraising	272,367
Purchase of Care*	29,391

Total Operating Revenues 2,690,256

*Funding from the McHenry County Mental Health Board



Operating Expenses

Special Recreation services	\$ 2,419,356
Capital	211,311
Debt Service	102,179
Total Operating Expenses	2,732,846

Change in Fund Net Position (42,590)

Net Position,	
Beginning of year	934,364
End of year	891,774

Highlights & Achievements

Since 1976, NISRA has provided year round recreation activities for local children, teens, and adults with disabilities. These noteworthy things occurred during NISRA and the NISRA Foundation's fiscal year [May 2018-April 2019](#):



Through the generosity of the Sage Legacy Fund, the Snoezelen[®] Sensory Room was constructed in the Sage Therapeutic Recreation Center at the NISRA Office.

A full growing season in Brian's Garden, the raised, wheelchair accessible garden, yielded an abundant harvest. Fresh produce was donated to the Family Health Partnership Clinic for distribution to residents in need.



The Crystal Lake Strikers and NISRA formed the Kingpins, the newest drumline in the Strikers' education program. The partnership includes practice weeks and performances with the Strikers at the Rave Center, in Crystal Lake parades, and other invitational venues.

Additional adult day programs were created, in partnership with Pioneer Center and the Association for Individual Development. Participants gained skills in art, cooking and theater, and worked on fitness through aerobics, dance, kickboxing and outdoor adventures.



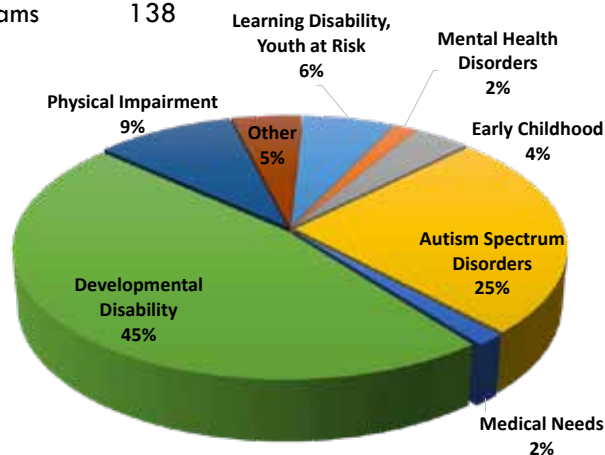
Bunker Hill Charities invited NISRA to its exclusive group of organizations that benefit from its philanthropic activities. The NISRA Foundation was given \$10,000 as a result of promoting ticket sales and volunteering at the 2018 Rockin' the Hill concert, along with advanced tickets to the 2019 Rockin' the Hill concert to be auctioned at the Holiday Fashion Show.



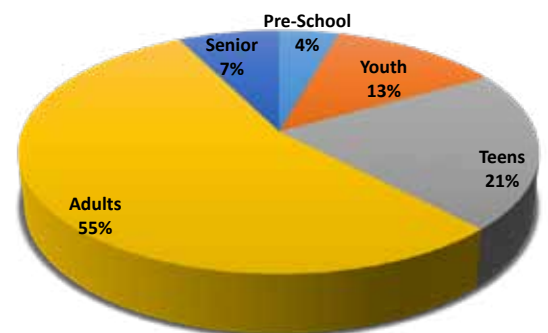
Participation 2018-19

Individuals Served	1,252
Total Program Registrations	7,834
Inclusion Assistance/Individuals	137
Inclusion Assistance/Programs	138

Program Registrations by Primary Disability



Program Registrations by Age



NISRA Foundation

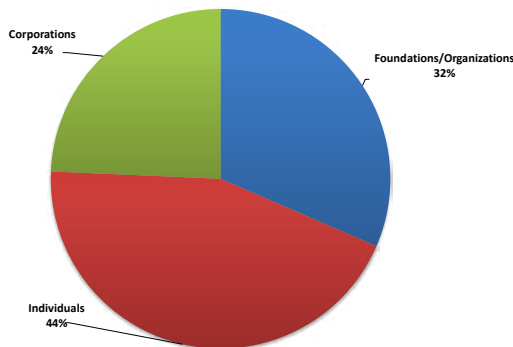
The NISRA Foundation contributes resources to assist NISRA in enriching the lives of people with disabilities through meaningful recreation experiences.

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

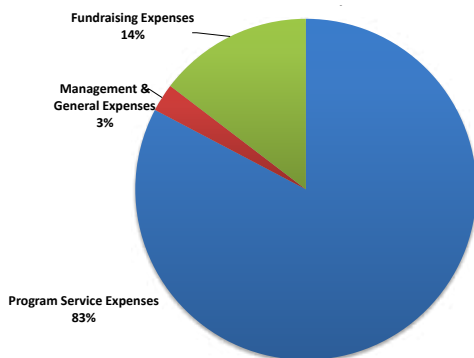
We know people have choices when it comes to charitable giving, and we're grateful when you choose to place your financial support—and confidence—in the NISRA Foundation.

Passionate for supporting 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 NISRA Foundation:
 83 cents goes to Program Service Expenses
 14 cents goes to Fundraising Expenses
 3 cents goes to Management and General Expenses

2018-19 NISRA Foundation Board of Directors (May 2018-April 2019)

Rochelle Donahue
 Tad Gralewski
 Annette Hammortree
 Pat Kallaus
 Jodi Kastner

Kevin Murray
 Tracie Rose
 Joseph Vallez
 Jim Wiseman

NISRA Foundation Statement of Activities for the Year Ended April 30, 2019

Public Support & Revenues

Special Events	
Special Events Revenue	\$144,915
Less: Costs of Direct	
Benefits to Donors	(71,436)
Net Special Events Revenue	73,479
Contributions	164,413
Donated Services	72,554
Interest	293
Net Assets Released from	
Restrictions	0

Total Public Support & Revenues 310,739

Expenses and Losses

Functional Expenses	
Program Services	
Outgoing Grants	\$ 197,849
In-kind Goods & Services	72,554
Staff Development	35,000
Office Expenses & Supplies	6,359
Fundraising	1,215

Total Expenses & Losses 312,977

Change in Net Assets (2,238)

**Net Assets,
 Beginning of year 133,736**

End of year 131,498



NISRA & NISRA Foundation Contributors

Thank you to those who made financial donations, or supported fundraisers during the fiscal year,
May 1, 2018-April 30, 2019

2018-19 NISRA Foundation Corporate Partners (May 2017-April 2018)

Ed & Rochelle Donahue
Hammortree Financial
Northwestern Medicine
PGL
RHP Risk Management Corp.
Ronald & Karen Schroeder

•\$20,000-100,000+

Community Foundation for
McHenry County
NISRA Foundation grant
Sage Legacy Fund

•\$10,000-19,999

Bunker Hill Charities
Mental Health Resource League
of McHenry County

•\$5,000-9,999

Barrington Area United Way
Kastner, Jodi
Knights Of Columbus #13034
Rotary Club Of Crystal Lake
Dawnbreakers
Top Cats of Illinois
Town of Elgin

•\$1,000-4,999

Barrington Township
Arnold, Joseph and Ann
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Brake Parts Inc
Dundee Township Lions Club
Dundee Township Park District
Evans, Christine
Fehrman, Scott and Lore
Fire Wagon Hockey, Inc.
Hammortree, Annette
Kirby, Susan
Knights Of Columbus #12824,
#3880, #776
Law Offices Of Donahue & Walsh
Meining, Richard and Gertrud
Miller Verchota, Inc.
Naponelli, Richard and Debra
Northwestern Medicine
Pacocha, Marty and Lorraine
RHP Risk Management
Schroeder, Ronald and Karen
Stryker
Terzich, Michael and Patricia
Wauconda Township
Wm. W. Meyer & Sons, Inc.
Young, Charles and Kimberly

•\$500-999

Adrowski, Debra
America's Cardboard Cup Regatta
Foundation
AptarGroup, Inc.
Community High School District 155
Contaldo, Robert and Debra
Covey, Susan
Crystal Bowl
Crystal Lake Park District
Dinelli, Ryan
Feffer, Mary and Michael
Fiala, Lynn
Freeman, Kelly
Fuze, Inc.
Graef, Kenneth and Conrad-Graef,
Teresa
Harper, David and Cynthia
Hill, Jennifer
Home State Bank
Huntley Park District
Johnson, Patty
Jones, Nancy (AbbVie Foundation)
Knights of Columbus #10678
Kotel, Kathy
Lamp Incorporated
Lawson, Tom
Lee, Megan
Loustaunau, Jean Marc and Mari
Marengo Park District
Mijares, Craig and Sandy
Murray, Kevin
O'Connell, Thomas
Schvette, John
Shepard, Michele
Silker, Deb
Stanton, Chris and Melinda
Thomson, Kimberly
Treasnor, Cyndy
VanDamme, Keith and Beth
Wiseman, James and Deborah

**NISRA also thanks our many friends
who donated auction items; bought
tables, tickets & foursomes; bid for
auction items or took chances on
raffle prizes.**

**We also thank families of
participants who donated their
program credits back to NISRA.**



•\$250-499

Alfus, Carol
Anderson, Jeff
Aussin, Jose and Doris
Baldwin, Roger and Julie
Brown, Heather
Cook, Dawn
Crystal Lake Travel
Cumpata, Maria
Davis, Heather
Fair, Claire
Favinger, Tiffany
Fougerousse, Kathleen
Gerdes, Norma
Gralewski, Tad
Harms, Theresa
Johanson, Karen
Kalamaras, Tara
King, Terri

Knights Of Columbus #1204
Knoeppel, Douglas and Lisa
Long, Julia
Lyneis, Susan
Marciniak, Phyllis
McHugh, Peg
Mitsch, Linda
Mitsch, Lori
Mountin, Mariellen
Parenzan, Marilyn
Reimers, Peter and Linda
Salutz, Tom
Schweda, Mary
Siemens, Jorie
Sterricker, Doreen
Wauconda Park District
Wienckowski, Steven and Margaret
Zielinski, Greg



•\$101-249

Allstate Giving Campaign
Central Medical Associates
Christensen, Joyce and Larry
Crittenden, Joanne
Dauphin, David
Dean, Pamela and Keith
Elam, Carla
Eschman, Marni
Fox River Oral & Maxillofacial
Surgery
Freund, Todd
Giese, Sue
Heavenly Attic Resale Shop
Hellgeth, Alice
Howard, Stefanie
Jackson, Debby
Javier, Darlene and Ben
Kallaus, Patricia and Michael
Keehn, Debra
Kelly, Linda
Kirmse, Mary
LaFrancis, Jude
Layoff, Reginald and Cyndy
Leonardo, Elsa
Little, Lucille
Manke, Michelle
MKB Kitchens, Baths & Basements
Nielsen, Amanda
Overly, Patricia
Palmer, Thom and Nancy
Primus, Kristi
Rivera, Luis Daniel
Rotermund, Kathleen
Rzeszutko, Lynne
Sanches, Patty
Scheitz, Colleen
Schmidt, Thomas and Deanne
Scoggins, Glenn
Shahinian, Brian and Barbara
Smith, Lynne
Solberg, Dean
Stamp, Kettisha
Tanaka, Richard
Torgerson, Kathleen
Volunteer Center McHenry County
Wakeman, Trudy
Weith, Janine
Wilbert, Travis

“Your coaches and staff make her life better with each bowling and swim practice. Simply, thank you all.”

—family guardian

•\$100

Advanced Strategies & Design LLC
Agrimonti, Richard and Yolanda
Ball, Randy & Cheryl
Broderick, John
Bush, Arthur and Suzanne
Cates, Kathleen
Donato, William and Elizabeth
Focus Wealth Planning, Inc
Franks, Gerkin & McKenna, P.C.
Gary, Jeff
Haacker, Dean
Havlik, Steven
Heidkamp Altergott, Karen
Jezior, Henry and Patricia
Johnson, Robert
Lacey-Anderson, Kathleen
Little, J Joseph
Lomelino, Earl & Collene
Lytle, Jean
Minkus, Paul
Monroig, Rachael
Nesbitt, Barbara and Mark
Nowak, Ken
Orndahl, Mike
Pava, Kathe
Plecki, Marge
Regan, Maureen
Rosenberg, Howard and Sue
Sauer, Emily
Scheitz, David and Kimberly
Scheitz, Tom and Colleen
Szczepanski, Nadine
Team Mechanical, EMCOR Services
Tichy, Theresa
Tuttle, James
Ward, Michele
Weidl, Brett
Whitehead, Michael and Kathleen
Wilhelmi, Walter & Michelle
Williams, James and Pamela
Wingard, Nancy Keck



Outgoing Grants & Expenses

With its 2019 grant to NISRA, the NISRA Foundation exceeded \$2 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 2019 to NISRA for these 2018-19 programs and projects:

Table listing outgoing grants and expenses: Snoezelen® Sensory Room (60,917), NISRA Day Camp & seasonal program scholarships (52,000), Staffing/Office Support (35,000), Accessible bus replacement (26,000), Healthy Minds Healthy Bodies program for veterans (7,700), Inclusion services (5,000), Special Olympics athlete assistance (9,700), Program equipment & supplies (4,745), Cultural Arts programs & equipment (2,500), Participant, Volunteer & Staff Recognition Night (5,000), Summer Day Camp Specials (2,500), Technology Support & Upgrades (21,787).

Total Contribution to NISRA\$232,849

Are we accurate?

We strive to be 100% accurate. If errors or omissions exist, we are truly sorry. Please notify us and we will make the correction.

“Every year Matthew attends Camp Kaleidoscope, he makes unbelievable growth in his verbal/ communication skills.”

—parent