



Holiday Newsletter 2025

# Honoring 40 Years

...And Fueling What's Next



**ACCESS.  
INCLUSION.  
ADVENTURE —  
FOR EVERYONE.**

## 2025 Snapshot



1,714  
Lessons &  
Experiences



391  
Unique  
Participants



231 Active  
Volunteers  
gave  
7,115 Hours

### Dear Friends of DREAM,

As we celebrate this milestone year, I'm filled with gratitude for the community that has shaped DREAM Adaptive Recreation. Forty years ago, a small group of volunteers believed everyone should have access to the joy and freedom of the outdoors. That belief still drives us today.

Because of you, DREAM continues to grow and reach more people each season. In 2025, nearly 400 individuals participated in more than 1,700 adaptive lessons, from skiing and snowboarding to biking, paddling, and fishing. Each number represents courage, confidence, and belonging.

Our programs do more than teach outdoor skills—they open doors to independence, connection, and joy. We see parents moved as their child takes a first ski run, veterans rediscovering purpose on the water, and volunteers finding new meaning in service.

Thank you for honoring 40 years of adventure and for fueling our exciting future. Your belief in inclusion and access ensures DREAM will continue changing lives for generations to come.

With gratitude,  
*Jefferia Clough*  
President, Board of Directors



Left to Right:  
Dottie Maitland, Dennis Jones, Julie Tickle

*We plant the seeds, and we never know if they're going to grow. How lucky, in my elderly years, that I am able to look back and see the growth of DREAM.*

*-Dottie Maitland, founder*

## “Don’t Give Up!”

Forty years ago, a small group of volunteers came together with a simple belief: everyone deserves the chance to experience the joy and freedom of the outdoors. Among them were Dottie Maitland and Dennis Jones, whose vision and persistence helped launch what would become DREAM Adaptive Recreation.

At our 40th Anniversary Brunch this fall, the founders reunited to reflect on how far that vision has come and how the spirit that started DREAM still guides us today. When asked what advice he’d give to DREAM’s current leader, Dennis didn’t hesitate:

*“Don’t quit. Don’t give up. You might get 100 no’s, but don’t give up, this is important work.”*

That message lives at the core of DREAM’s mission. It’s the same encouragement we offer every participant learning a new skill, every volunteer adapting on the fly, and every supporter who believes in building a more inclusive community.

The courage to keep going, that’s the DREAM that unites us all.

## Pedaling Toward Possibility

For many, riding a bike means more than fresh air, it means freedom. In its first full season, DREAM’s Paved Path Cycling Program provided 95 lessons, blending the joy of biking with real-life skills. For some participants, cycling becomes a bridge to independence, connecting them to school, work, and community. With a variety of bikes and supportive instructors, riders of all abilities experienced success and confidence on the path.

The program also ties directly to DREAM’s advocacy and access work, advancing universally designed trails and outdoor spaces so that everyone can experience the benefits of being outside and moving freely.



# Joy in Every Season

## Meet Maggie

For Maggie P., movement has always meant connection. Growing up in Denver, some of her happiest memories came from being part of her inclusive high school swim and golf teams—sharing laughter, teamwork, and the joy of belonging. That early love for movement and camaraderie continues to shine through today.

Over the past year and a half, Maggie has participated in DREAM's paddle sports, paved-path cycling, and Nordic skiing programs—each bringing new friends, new goals, and plenty of smiles.

After watching Maggie ride with DREAM's paved-path cycling program last summer, her mom, Catherine, decided to purchase her own trike. Now, the two make it a daily ritual to ride an hour together around the neighborhood, often stopping by Maggie's sister Riley's house to say hello to Max, the golden retriever. "It's the best part of our day," Catherine says.

Maggie loved the paved-path program for the friends she made and the conversations shared while rolling down the trail—especially about her favorite movies and shows like *The Flash* and *Jurassic Park*.

When asked about her favorite DREAM memory, Maggie grinned as she described a gray spring day on Whitefish Lake, when wind and waves sent her paddleboard tipping. A confident swimmer, she proudly climbed right back on. "She couldn't wait to tell me she did it all by herself," Catherine recalls.

Looking ahead, Maggie can't wait to return to the snow for Nordic skiing, and try downhill for the first time.



*"What I love most about DREAM," says Catherine—Maggie's mom, "is that the staff and volunteers truly build up each participant's confidence."*



**Save the  
Dates**

**February 28th - The Snow Ball @ The Wachholz College Center  
March 21st - Shred Fest at Whitefish Mountain Resort**



PO Box 4084  
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