First and foremost, thank you for being part of our donor community. Since 1999, you’ve entrusted us to empower our participants through a reconnection with nature and sport. The landscape of our programs alone serves to inspire, and the heart of those programs aims to transform through an accepting and emboldening framework. Through proven programs we’re able to renew participants’ spirits and enable them to connect with others and achieve lasting change.

The demand for Higher Ground programs is greater now than ever. At Higher Ground, we have always focused on whole-life healing, for our participants and their families. The need is there, ever-growing, and we want to continue to show up and be that beacon. As our participants have looked to us throughout our current crisis for the support needed to thrive, we continue to turn to you to create these opportunities. Please help us help those who need it most. Your continued support makes this possible and we look forward to the day when we all gather and thank you in person.

With gratitude,

Kate Dobbie
Executive Director
Higher Ground Veteran Programs

It is our goal to provide the most effective adaptive sports and therapeutic recreation services to veterans confronted with traumatic brain injury (TBI), post-traumatic stress (PTS), military sexual trauma (MST), and polytrauma through the use of evidence-based practices and the sustained continuum of care necessary for a successful reintegration into families and home communities. It is our organizational mission to enhance quality of life through therapeutic recreation and education for people of all abilities.

HG provides week-long and day programs throughout the year for our injured veteran community. A fundamental component of the program model is the healing, restorative power of being in the outdoors in order to unveil a vigor for life through natural settings and challenges.

New York and California

With expansion locations in Los Angeles and Buffalo, New York we are able to have central hubs in areas with some of the highest concentrations of veterans. Western New York is a place of great natural beauty and a strong, family-oriented community – the elements that make the location prime for veterans to heal and join together. LA County has over 300,000 veterans and has access to varied recreation opportunities such as surfing, climbing and skiing.
Program Highlights

★ The Adaptive program continues to serve new populations each year, last year we expanded services to the blind

★ In thanks to the Craig H. Neilsen grant we were able to serve more people with spinal cord injuries

★ The Adaptive program partnered with 7 organizations including Challenged Athletes Foundation and Trout Unlimited

THE ADAPTIVE PROGRAM in winter primarily focuses on alpine skiing, snowboarding, sled hockey, snowshoeing, and Nordic skiing for individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities. The goal is to provide individual instruction that increases the participant’s ability to a level where they can enjoy snow sports at the highest level of independence. Snow sport goals are set for individuals in order to track progress throughout the season. Those individuals who are ready to push themselves to the next level may join the Higher Ground Ski Team. Outside of winter, the adaptive handcycle program continues to grow and serve more through strategic partnerships.

Whether we are working with our local population of participants with physical and cognitive disabilities, the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind, local veterans, or our many visitors from around the world, Higher Ground continues to provide the most up-to-date technologies and professional services to all who we serve.

EXPANDED RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES were added in the past fiscal year which included fishing and golf around the Sun Valley area.

MEMBERS ONLY CLUB (MOC) is designed for local adults (post high school) with cognitive disabilities to get together every Monday and Friday for a weekly fitness routine. This program promotes healthy living, social skills and independence.
Higher Ground is Grateful for:

Our Donors

You, our donors, are the heart of Higher Ground and your generosity enables us to provide each of our programs with the professionals, equipment, and resources we need to effectively serve our diverse participants. Our collective vision and mission are grand in scope and efficacious in practice, but would be impossible without you. As Higher Ground continues to move forward and serve more participants than ever before, we are increasingly thankful for the ongoing support and commitment from each of you.

Our Volunteers

Higher Ground's pulse comes from our dynamic volunteers and the dedication and love that you put into our programs. Our volunteers dedicate thousands of program hours to make sure our participants are out being active. There are not enough words to say "Thank You" for all the cold mornings that you have spent teaching lessons on Dollar, the countless hours of office work, the full days at veteran week-long programs, and your continuous support with events!
In Kinds

Last year, Higher Ground received over $786,148 in gifts including products, trips, lodging, rentals and airline miles from our retail partners, corporations and individuals. These gifts are integral to our bottom line, and the success of our programs would not be possible without the generosity of our “In Kind” partners. Thank you to all these supporters; your generosity enables our participants to experience unrivaled opportunities. A special thanks to the following partners who each donate above $5,000/yr.

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Our Donors

Without you we couldn't continue to serve those who need it most. We thank you from the bottom of all of our hearts, your generosity astounds us every year. Here are the donors that helped keep Higher Ground running last fiscal year.

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Higher Ground uses recreation, therapy, and continuing support to give people of all abilities a better life.

Together we bridge the gap between disability and belonging.

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