



Dear friends and supporters:

Have you ever looked at a disabled person and thought how lucky you are to be able to walk, think, see and hear - without giving it a second thought? Have you ever counted your blessings because you're able to live a "normal" life? When you think of the everyday challenges disabled individuals face, it is inspiring just see how bravely they manage their day-to-day lives. Now imagine this same individual skiing down Mammoth Mountain! Incredible? You bet! Impossible? No way! It happens every month through Disabled Sports USA of Orange County.

Our organization, DSUSA-OC, provides this opportunity for disabled children and adults. The heart of this program is to teach disabled individuals how to ski in a safe, fun, and nurturing environment. Through this sport, however, a much bigger lesson is being learned by all involved - self-esteem and confidence. The freedom of skiing and the success of learning a new skill bring to life the guiding philosophy of our group:

"If I Can Do This, I Can Do Anything!"

DSUSA-OC is a labor of love that exists because of the generosity of volunteer instructors, parents, students, and doctors who donate their time and energy to making this group a reality. Mammoth Mountain also endorses us by generously donating lift tickets for students and instructors.

Because of the high medical costs associated with having a disability, many of our students would not be able to afford to participate if we charged for the instruction or equipment. Unlike other groups, we provide these free of charge. However, specialized equipment designed for disabled individuals is very expensive and costly to maintain. That is why we need your help!

We are a solely self-supporting, nonprofit organization. We have no paid staff and receive no support from the government. The funds to keep this program alive are raised through raffles, donations, and our annual Ski-a-Thon, which is our primary source of income.

Our 20th Annual Ski-a-Thon fundraiser will be held on our March 2-4 trip. Each student will ski the course as many times as possible during the designated race period. Prizes and awards are given for the best times and most runs.

As a sponsor, you're being asked to pledge money for the student or instructor who is contacting you now. Please find a place in your heart to assist so that these disabled individuals can experience a new sense of freedom, accomplishment and success that they may have never felt before! If you want to know more, please ask a student or volunteer what this group means to him or her.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

John Lucas - Director of Fundraising
DSUSA – OC
949-212-1677 or email foodie92656@gmail.com



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

In an effort to thank and recognize those individuals or companies who support our group, the following sponsorship opportunities are available:

Platinum Sponsor - \$1,500 or more

- Plaque acknowledging support
- Recognition Company Name & Logo on Trailer
- Recognition Company Name & Logo on Shirts
- Gift package with DSUSA items
- Special recognition in DSUSA-OC Newsletter
- Invitation to DSUSA-OC Awards Banquet

Gold Sponsor - \$750 or more

- Plaque acknowledging support
- Recognition Company Name & Logo on Shirts
- Special recognition in DSUSA-OC Newsletter
- Invitation to DSUSA-OC Awards Banquet

Silver Sponsor - \$250 or more

- Plaque acknowledging support
- Special recognition in DSUSA-OC Newsletter
- Invitation to DSUSA-OC Awards Banquet



Orange County Chapter
The Achievers
'If I can do this, I can do anything'

HOW YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL BE USED

Funds raised from the Ski-a-Thon will be used primarily for new adaptive equipment, repairs, housing, and transportation.

New equipment is needed because of typical wear and tear. Also, sometimes we have had to turn away students because we did not have enough equipment for everyone or because we did not have the proper equipment for their particular disability. Our goal is never to turn a student away because of lack of equipment. We are particularly in need of additional mono skis and bi-skis, since the number of paraplegics in our group is growing.

A brief outline of the costs associated with scholarships, uniforms and equipment is shown below:

- **New student housing** **\$200 per student**
- **Mono-ski or bi-ski** **\$4,000 each - need one**
- **Snow Slider** **\$1,300 each - need one**
- **Outriggers** **\$270 each pair - need six**
- **Ski Bras** **\$60 per pair - need eight**
- **Skis and Bindings** **\$400 per pair - need four**
- **Helmets** **\$100 each - need ten**
- **Student Uniforms** **\$100 each - need ten**

These are just examples and actual equipment needs and costs vary and monetary distribution is at the board of director's discretion.



IDEAS FOR OBTAINING PLEDGES

- Pledge yourself first!! It is easier to get others to sponsor the event if they see your commitment.
- A little goes a long way! It only takes 10 people pledging \$10 each to earn \$100!
- Pledges can be made on a per run or a fixed basis. Fixed pledges, collected in advance, are the best because you don't have to make a second trip or call to your sponsor - except to say "Thank-You!! We hit our goal thanks to you!"
- Who to ask? Everyone! Ask friends, family, other skiers, co-workers, companies, your boss, neighbors, and so on.
- Many companies have matching programs for charity fund-raisers, or simply have a budget allocated to donate to charity. Does your company have something like this, or do you know someone who does? Ask around - you may be surprised!
- Get your pledge sheets filled out. We will make more if you need them!