

Wheelchairs 4 Kids

ANNUAL REPORT

June 1, 2018 - May 31, 2019 Fiscal Year



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Photos by J David



MISSION STATEMENT

WHEELCHAIRS 4 KIDS is dedicated to improving the lives of children with physical disabilities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Provided **168** kids with equipment and/or modifications this fiscal year – a **64%** increase over last year!
- **84.5%** of our funding spent on programs.
- Hosted **13** Wheely Fun Days for our Families.
- Held **3** successful fundraising events.
- **100%** family satisfaction.
- We had **25** online/newspaper articles and 10 TV/radio segments. We have **4,722** Facebook Followers and have added an Instagram account with **434** Instagram followers.
- Recognized at a breakfast in our honor with The Ethics Award from the University of Tampa Ethics Center.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS SUMMARY

This fiscal year Wheelchairs 4 Kids provided equipment or modifications for 168 children; a 64% increase over the number of children we served last year. We are very proud that as such a young organization to have expanded and that 84.5% of funds were dedicated to programs, 7% to administration, and 8.5% to fundraising expenses. We know it is important for donors to feel confident that their gifts are being used wisely.

Wheelchairs 4 Kids hosted thirteen “Wheely Fun Days” for our families. Our Christmas party started with dinner at the Palm Pavilion, then off to meet Winter the Dolphin, star of the movie blockbuster, Dolphin Tale. Even Santa made a surprise appearance! We were given a suite with refreshments for a Tampa Bay Rays Game and our kids got to be on the Jumbotron leading the singing of Take Me Out to the Ball Game!

We also went to two WWE events and behind the scenes at the St. Pete Grand Prix to meet the drivers. Our kids also went water-skiing using adaptive equipment, indoor sky-diving and zip-lining!

Wheelchairs 4 Kids held 3 successful fundraising events. A Wheely Good Time Auction was held in November at Ruth Eckerd Hall where we were able to auction off a VIP experience including a Meet and Greet with Ed Sheeran. We hosted our 8th Annual Jail and Bail at Charley’s Steak House and our 4th Annual Kimberly Knorr Memorial Celebrity Golf Tournament was a huge success with celebrities from the MLB and NFL participating. All 3 events were huge successes garnering a huge increase in funding from previous years.

Over the last fiscal year, Wheelchairs 4 Kids had 35 pieces of media coverage. This does NOT include all the radio mentions from our DJ Felons during the Jail and Bail event or the Social Media mentions/shares to promote our Wheel Kids and news articles. This DOES include TV news segments, articles and blog posts.

Family satisfaction is very important and we are proud to have 100% family satisfaction rating!



INCLUSION PROGRAM

Wheelchairs 4 Kids inclusion program called “Wheely Fun Days” is a program that allows our children to experience some of the activities that we take for granted as well as some exclusive experiences that will create memories that will last a lifetime and make them the envy of all their peers!

Our kids benefit from our “Wheely Fun Days” program simply by being out in the community and having fun. Their social skills improve and able-bodied children become more comfortable by learning

to accept individual differences; realizing that our kids share many of the same hopes and dreams that they have and even enjoy the same pop culture phenoms! The best way to help children overcome their misconceptions about kids who have disabilities is to bring them to places and events that other children enjoy. We also host “exclusive” events for our kids. There is nothing more impressive to a child’s peers than being the kid who gets to exclusively participate in an event or meet a favorite celebrity!

EQUIPMENT/MODIFICATION PROGRAM (LET’S ROLL! PROGRAM)

Wheelchairs 4 Kids is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children with physical disabilities. We provide wheelchairs, home and vehicle modifications as well as other assistive equipment at no charge to the families.

Many children faced with living with physical disabilities are in wheelchairs that are too small, in disrepair, or do not fit the needs of the child. Children outgrow their wheelchairs before government or insurance programs will allow for a replacement. Not only is it unsafe for a child to be in a chair that is inadequate for their needs, but it can impact their health in numerous ways including scoliosis, respiratory problems and pressure sores.

In addition, families are faced with trying to care for their special needs children in homes that have not been modified to meet their specific circumstances. Imagine trying to lift your teenager in and out of bed or a bathtub without assistive devices or a modified bathroom. Picture a child in a home where they can’t get upstairs. We have installed roll-in showers for

families who were bathing their teenage children in the back yard with hoses because they could no longer safely get their kids in and out of the tub. Our name may be Wheelchairs 4 Kids, but we do so much more. We have provided custom wheelchairs, widened doors, built ramps and provided wheelchair lifts and carriers for vehicles. We have given children standers and gait trainers and even installed a stairlift allowing a child to reach the second level of their home.

SOME INTERESTING FACTS:

- Medicaid generally only replaces a chair every 5 years. Children grow.
- Medicaid may provide a power chair, but no means for the family to transport it or even get it into the child’s home or through narrow doors.
- Several advocacy groups have discontinued or cut back on their equipment programs.
- There are several organizations that are shipping wheelchairs to third world countries but very few that help children in the United States due to the high cost of customizing chairs to fit the needs of the child and meeting regulatory standards.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Expense Summary
June 2018 through May 2019



Programs	84.50%
Fundraising	8.43
Administrative	7.07
Total	\$959,043.15

By Class



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!



WHEELCHAIRS 4 KIDS

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