

**Grantee Spotlight:  
Beth Kolbe**



She's got Beijing on her mind. A member of the U.S. Paralympic National Swim Team for the past four years, Elizabeth (Beth) Kolbe has long dreamed of competing at the highest levels of the sport. Thanks to a competition grant she received from CAF, she took part in the U.S. Paralympic Trials in Minneapolis, MN. Based on her excellent performance, Beth earned a coveted spot on the Beijing team, and come September, Beth will be competing in the 2008 Summer Paralympics. Her dreams are one step closer to fruition.

Beth hasn't always been a swimmer. She played volleyball in junior high school before she was in a horrible car accident which resulted in a C6-C7 spinal cord injury, leaving her a quadriplegic. Her rehab began in the pool, and what started as physical therapy, became a passion and an important part of her life.

Beth began swimming the backstroke because it was the easiest stroke to learn. Soon, she was swimming and balancing on her stomach. The rest is history. She later swam on her high school swim team, and recently set her 14<sup>th</sup> American Record swimming as a member of the Harvard University women's team.

CAF is proud to support Beth and many of the other U.S. swimmers vying for medals in Beijing. Ladies and gentlemen: Let's bring home the gold!