



2017 IMPACT REPORT



MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN

On the eve of our 25th anniversary, it is not our past that calls loudly for celebration, it is our future.

At this moment in time we stand with firm belief on the prospect of a better world for challenged athletes, and even more certain of the role of the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF) as a world leader for people with physical challenges by providing opportunity and access to sports and an active lifestyle.

We have a growing number of investors in our future who have pledged annual, planned and endowment gifts, and we have ignited the next generation of supporters, witnessing the children and grandchildren of our loyal donors and event participants as they find their own role within the organization.

We have not just maintained, but we have elevated the quality of our camps, clinics and special events. We deliver the opportunity for athletic conquest in an environment of inclusion, safety, expertise, storytelling, support and celebration.

We have the support of top brands and organizations from throughout the world of sports, technology and lifestyle to grow our reach.

More opportunities are emerging to be the first call after an accident or illness. When we send a mentor to say “You can” or “You will,” CAF can help individuals more quickly move toward redefining their lives.

We have a passionate and brilliant board, leadership team and staff who every day impress me with their talents and leadership. They mirror the desire of our athletes to do more, be more and serve more. We are on our way to making it possible for EVERY individual with a physical challenge to envision themselves as an athlete.

We are grateful for the past 24 years, and especially the past year that affirms we are a resilient, innovative, compassionate, trusted and capable organization that is ready to meet the future.

Join me as we look ever forward.



Jeffrey Essakow



“We are on our way to making it possible for *EVERY* individual with a physical challenge to envision themselves as an athlete.”



WELCOME

CAF was founded on the belief that sports and an active lifestyle can transform lives. With a record breaking year of 2,448 grants funded across 97 different sports in 2017, more and more athletes are saying “yes” to the life-changing power of sport and an active lifestyle.



The CAF community is paving the way for future generations to raise the bar and achieve more.

In the past year, CAF has worked toward greater inclusion and empowered challenged athletes to achieve more. Partners, donors and fundraisers are providing opportunities, challenged athletes are transforming perceptions and CAF is taking innovation to the next level.

THIS YEAR WAS ONE OF “FIRSTS”

On the path to providing access to sports for all, CAF:

- Grew the Junior Seau Foundation Adaptive Surf Program, presented by CAF, allowing more kids to experience the stoke of surfing.
- Hosted youth and adult Paratriathlon camps to develop all levels of triathletes.
- Launched the first J&L Pie Company Adaptive Cycling Program to set cyclists of all levels up with the right equipment.
- Top brands like Nike, Toyota, Apple, Accenture, IRONMAN, Smoothie King and others partnered with CAF in new ways to bring purpose and meaning to their consumers and employees.



VISION

To be the world leader in supporting people with physical challenges by providing access to sports and an active lifestyle, mentorship and inspiration.

MISSION

To provide opportunities and support to people with physical challenges, so they can pursue active lifestyles through physical fitness and competitive athletics. We believe that involvement in sports at any level increases self-esteem, encourages independence and enhances quality of life.

IMPACT

24 years of impacting lives:

- Over \$93,000,000 raised
- Over 18,000 grants awarded
- Est. over 20,000,000 people reached through community outreach plus media
- 97 sports supported
- Athletes served in 50 states and over 40 countries

2017 GRANT DISTRIBUTION

Expensive equipment or training shouldn't be the biggest hurdle athletes face in their endeavors. CAF is committed to helping athletes overcome financial impediments by providing funding grants for equipment, training, coaching and competition costs.



OVER
\$3.7M
DISTRIBUTED

2,448
GRANTS

97
SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?
61%
of grant applicants make
40K or less annually.

OF GRANTS PER SPORT

TOP 10 SPORTS BY GRANT

Wheelchair Basketball.....	267
Track & Field.....	190
Beep Baseball	112
Triathlon	82
Wheelchair Rugby.....	79
Running	79
Handcycling.....	78
Cycling.....	78
Swimming.....	73
Sled Hockey.....	63

BREAKDOWN BY
PHYSICAL CHALLENGE

Amputee	20%
Paraplegia.....	17%
Visual Impairment	15%
Spina Bifida	11%
Cerebral Palsy	10%
Other.....	27%

DISTRIBUTION BY AGE

5	83		
Youngest Grantee	Oldest Grantee		
28%	38%	27%	7%
Under 18	18-35	36-55	Over 55

Acrobatics.....	1	Cycling	74	Jiu Jitsu.....	3
All Terrain Wheelchair for		Dance.....	1	Judo.....	4
Outdoor Sports	2	Endeavor Games		Karate	1
Archery/ Shooting	13	Competition Expenses.....	5	Lacrosse	4
Ballroom Dance	2	Equestrian Competition		Mono-ski.....	2
Baseball	3	Expenses	21	Motocross	1
Beep Baseball	116	Fencing	4	Mountain Biking.....	1
Billiards.....	1	Fitness &		Multicourt Wheelchair.....	4
Blind Bowling.....	23	Personal Training.....	7	National Junior Disability	
Boccia.....	12	Football.....	2	Championship Competition	
Canoeing/Kayaking/		Goalball.....	18	Expenses	28
Para-Canoeing.....	8	Golf.....	8	Nordic Skiing	5
Cheerleading.....	2	Gymnastics	3	Obstacle Race Expenses.....	6
CrossFit	3	Handcycling.....	113	Para Badminton	3
Curling	6	Hockey	2	Para Bobsled.....	2

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHTS



Name: Adelynn Klundby
Sports: Volleyball, Track
Grant: Össur Running Foot
Age: 13
Physical Challenge: Above knee amputee
Mantra: “Be unstoppable.”



Name: Kumaka Jensen
Sports: WCMX, Surfing
Grant: Training and competition expenses for WCMX Worlds
Age: 10
Physical Challenge: Spina Bifida
Mantra: “When I fall, I get back up and try again.”



Name: Anna Soens
Sports: Handcycling, Rock Climbing
Grant: Off-road handcycle
Age: 29
Physical Challenge: Paraplegia
Mantra: “Live your dreams, don't chase them.”



Name: Parker Olenick
Sports: Sled Hockey, Basketball, Paddling and Sailing
Grant: Coaching and training expenses
Age: 13
Physical Challenge: Cerebral Palsy
Mantra: “To never believe people who tell me I can't.”



Over 500 YMCA of San Diego County memberships have been given to challenged athletes and their families. The program is expanding to other cities, including Dallas, Philadelphia and Boulder.



Para Skeleton.....	1	Skiing.....	13	Wakeboarding.....	3
Paragliding	2	Sled Hockey.....	63	Water Skiing.....	6
Power Soccer	37	Snowboarding	9	WCMX	24
Powerlifting.....	7	Soccer.....	3	Weightlifting	1
Rock Climbing.....	16	Softball	1	Wheelchair Basketball.....	267
Rowing	10	Sports Camps.....	5	Wheelchair CrossFit	1
Running + Marathons.....	31	Surfing	42	Wheelchair Dancing	5
Running Prosthetic Feet.....	79	Swimming.....	61	Wheelchair Fencing	1
Sailing.....	2	Synchronized Swimming	3	Wheelchair Racing.....	49
San Diego Triathlon Challenge		Table Tennis.....	5	Wheelchair Rugby.....	83
Travel Expenses.....	22	Taekwondo	4	Wheelchair Tennis.....	51
Scuba.....	3	Tandem Bicycling	1	Wrestling	1
Self-Defense	2	Tennis	29	Yoga	2
Sit Volleyball	7	Track & Field.....	120	Zumba.....	1
Skating.....	1	Triathlon	61		

2017 CAMPS + CLINICS

Over 700 athletes received individualized support and coaching at CAF's interactive camps and clinics around the country. Participants developed the confidence they need to reach their athletic goals. CAF and our community partners hosted camps and clinics in San Diego, San Francisco, Birmingham, Philadelphia, Dallas, Minneapolis and on the Nike Campus in Portland.



SPORTS CLINICS

- Össur Running and Mobility
- Swim
- Adult and Youth Paratriathlon
- WCMX
- Wheelchair Tennis
- Surfing
- Sitting Volleyball
- Wheelchair Basketball
- Adaptive Cycling

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Hosted 23 Adaptive Sports Clinics

CAF made a big impact in the adaptive sports world by providing 23 gold standard clinics in 2017. We helped over 350 lower limb amputees learn how to run through our Össur Running and Mobility Clinics, presented by CAF. Clinics ranged from WCMX to swimming to sitting volleyball and were provided free to challenged athletes of all ages and abilities.

All New Adaptive Cycling Program

With support from J&L Pie Company, CAF kicked off its new Adaptive Cycling Program with our first ever Adaptive Cycling clinic. The clinic brought together supporters, volunteers and challenged athletes from across our cycling community to introduce new athletes to the sport of cycling.

Growth of Junior Seau Foundation Adaptive Surf Program, presented by CAF

As a leader in the Adaptive Surfing Movement, CAF is taking the initiative to provide camps, clinics, mentorship opportunities and life-changing equipment and competition grants to people with physical challenges. In collaboration with other partners like IRONMAN and Switchfoot Bro-Am Foundation, CAF has introduced over 150 kids to the sport of surfing. And for the first time in Switchfoot Bro-Am history, Team CAF athletes competed in the same contest as able-bodied pro and amateur surfers.



OPERATION REBOUND

CAF's Operation Rebound® program strengthens the mental and physical well-being of veterans, military personnel and first responders with permanent physical injuries by providing them opportunities to use sports and fitness to re-integrate into our communities and by empowering them through sports.

\$478,929
GRANT FUNDING FOR
MILITARY SUPPORT

307
GRANTEES

36%
NEW GRANTEES

27%
INCREASE IN
FEMALE GRANTEES



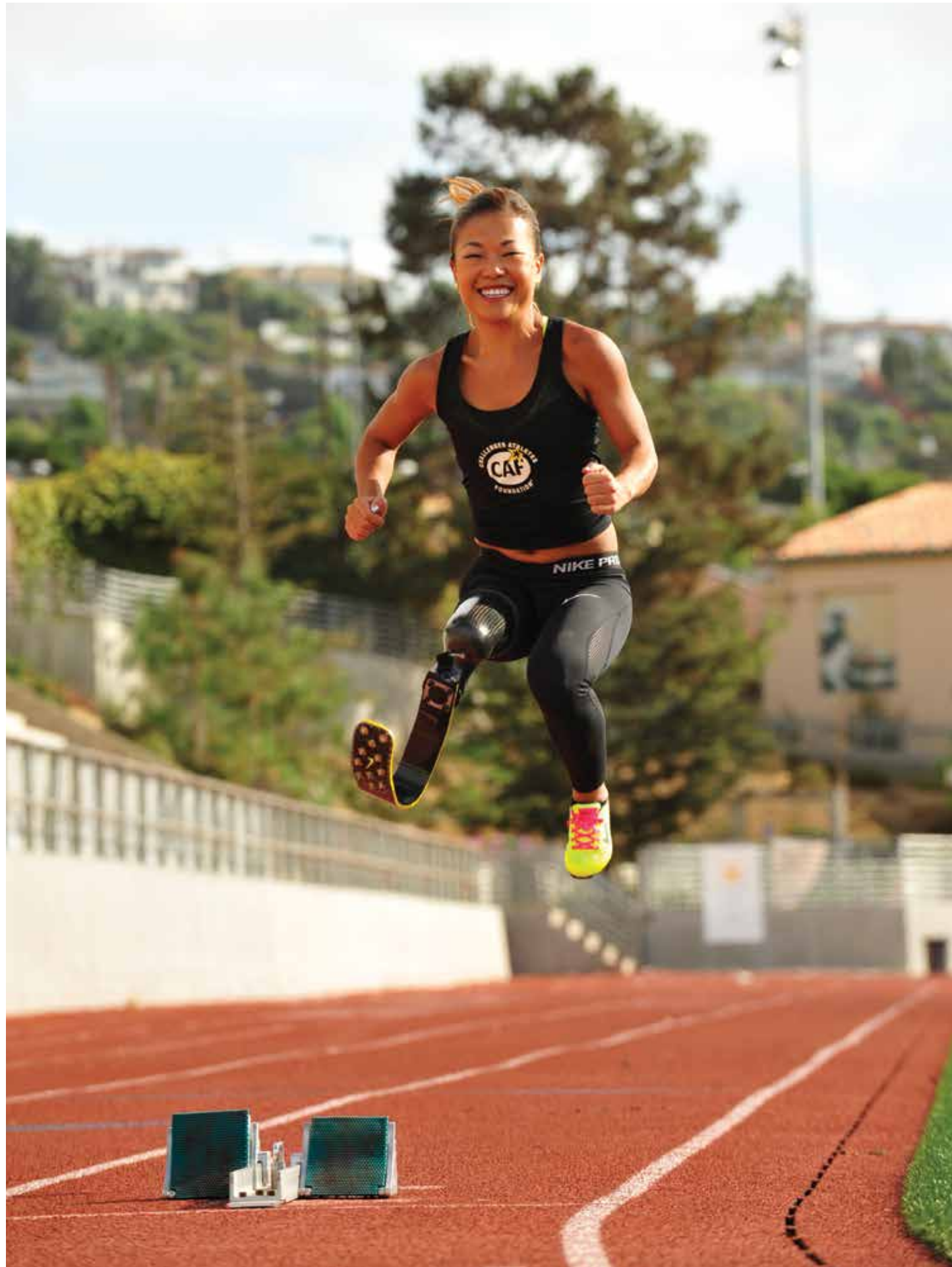
CAF's Operation Rebound® is accredited by The Patriots Initiative (TPI), as one of the finest non-profit organizations in the nation supporting America's armed forces service members, veterans and their families.



Athlete Spotlight: Scott Leason
Sports: Surfing, waterskiing, tandem cycling
Grant: Waterski training
Physical Challenge: Visually impaired
Mantra: "Never lose sight."

Athlete Spotlight: Luis Morales
Sport: Triathlon
Grant: Triathlon bike
Physical Challenge: Below knee amputee
Mantra: "De oppresso liber."





COA AWARD WINNERS

The Celebration of Abilities (COA) Awards Dinner celebrates the extraordinary heart and performance of CAF athletes throughout the year.

In 2017, we recognized many firsts including Willie Stewart completing the 280-mile Leadman Challenge in the Colorado Rockies, Andre Kajlich becoming the first solo handcyclist to complete Race Across America (RAAM), Lance Weir racing on a tandem hand-cycle in IRONMAN Oceanside 70.3 and Hunter Woodhall receiving the first D-1 track scholarship as a double amputee running on prosthetics.



Jim MacLaren Award: Willie Stewart



Exceptional Athletic Performance:
Andre Kajlich



Most Inspirational:
Lance Weir



Trailblazer:
Hunter Woodhall



Sam Day Rising Star:
KJ Fields



Sam Day Rising Star:
Annie Flood



Partner of the Year:
Nike



Volunteers of the Year:
Dr. Jeff Anthony
Dr. Mike McHale
Nurse Sharon Dunlap



WE APPLAUD OUR PARTNERS!

CAF partners with many top brands, companies and grant funders in sports, prosthetics, technology, lifestyle, healthcare, services and philanthropy to grow our reach. Together, we create shared value and a culture that becomes ingrained with CAF's mission where inclusion and accessibility are the high bars to strive for in making the world better. We are grateful for the support of our many, many partners and especially this year's Game Changers:



SIGNATURE EVENTS

A Celebration of Heroes, Heart and Hope Gala

Supporters, challenged athletes and volunteers came together in New York and demonstrated the impact we make when community unites behind our powerful mission.

Back to Back Cycling Challenge NorCal

CAF continued the tradition of offering a challenging 3-day ride in the heart of wine country. Local challenged athletes offered the inspiration and local wineries played host to the group.

Million Dollar Challenge

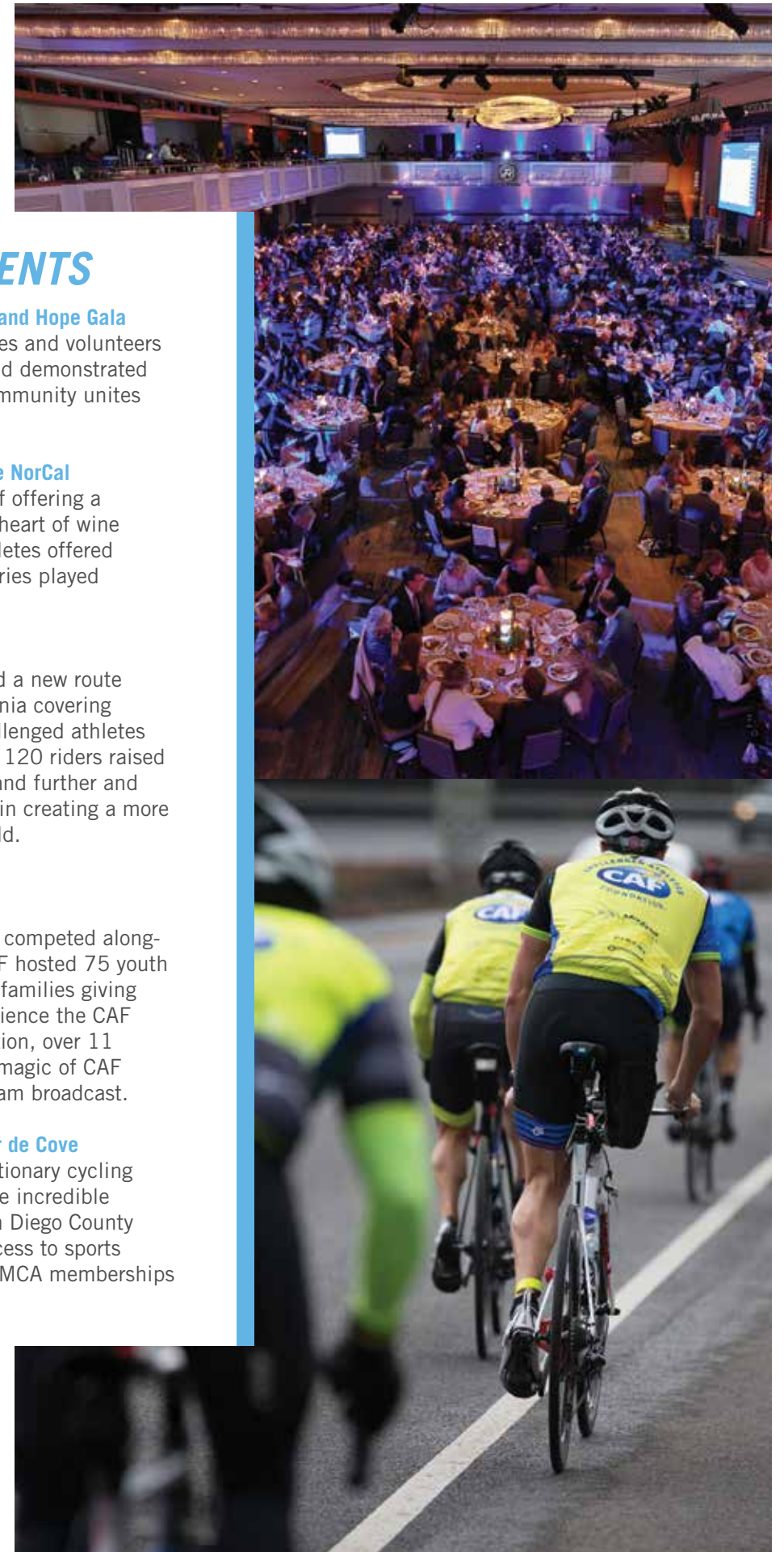
The Trailblazer edition charted a new route through quintessential California covering 620-miles in 7 days. Ten challenged athletes completed the journey but all 120 riders raised the bar: going higher, faster, and further and proving everyone plays a part in creating a more empowered and inclusive world.

Aspen Medical Products San Diego Triathlon Challenge

Over 200 challenged athletes competed alongside 500 fundraisers, and CAF hosted 75 youth challenged athletes and their families giving them the opportunity to experience the CAF community firsthand. In addition, over 11 million people witnessed the magic of CAF through our first ever Livestream broadcast.

YMCA of San Diego County Tour de Cove

This high energy 4.5 hour stationary cycling marathon event showcased the incredible partnership with YMCA of San Diego County to raise funds and provide access to sports and fitness through lifetime YMCA memberships to challenged athletes.



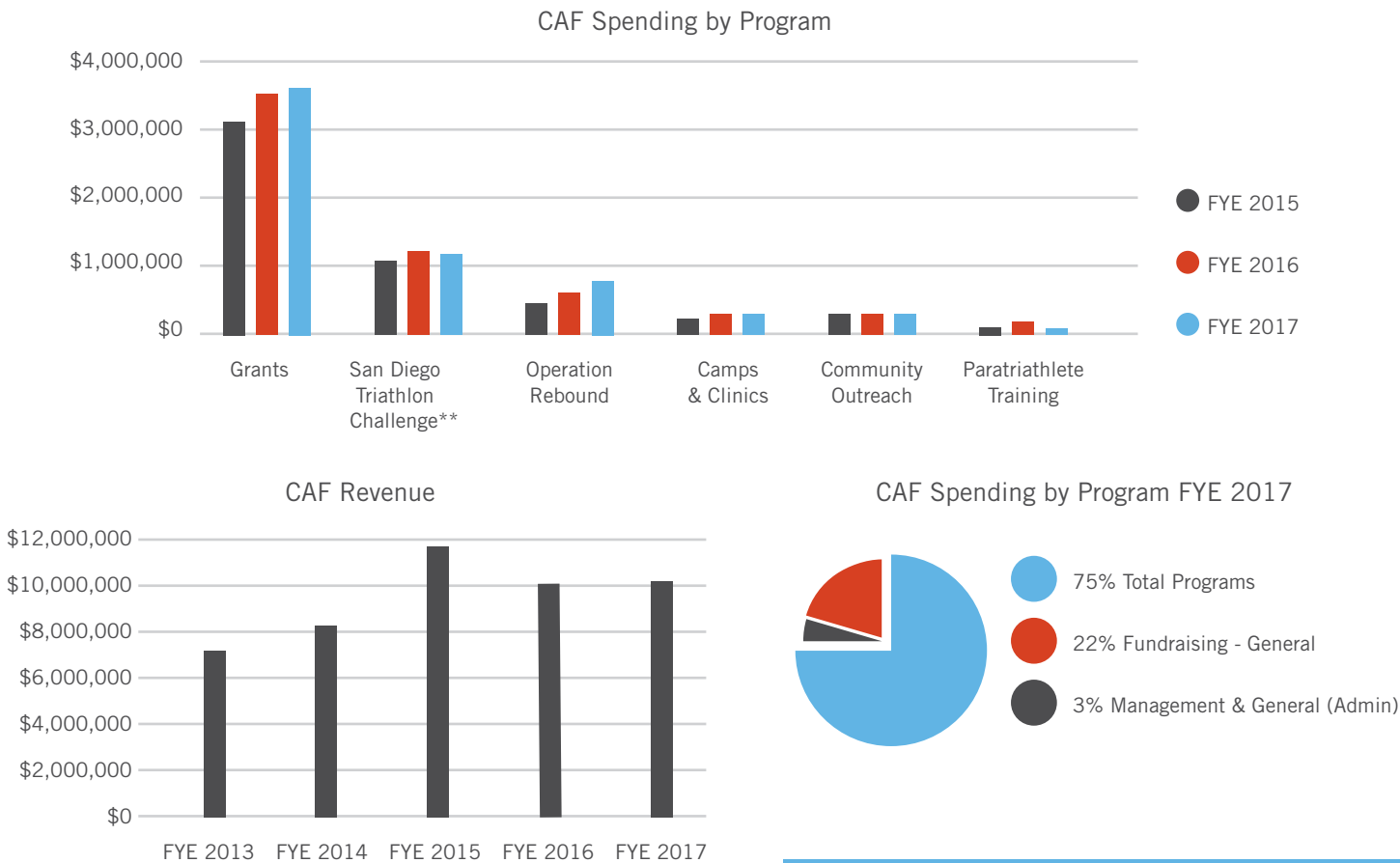
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Your generosity, dedication and support create opportunities for challenged athletes and build a more inclusive world.



FINANCIAL SPOTLIGHT

Our commitment to CAF stakeholders, partners, and the overall community is to provide the greatest impact, stay true to our mission and remain accountable throughout all initiatives. For detailed financial reporting FYE 2017 of fiscal year 2016/2017*, visit <http://www.challengedathletes.org/financials/>.



Note: 2015 includes one time Celebration of Will and establishment of the Challenged Athletes Foundation Endowment in the Memory of Robin Williams.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Over our 24-year history, we are proud to have established CAF Endowment and Donor Advised Funds totaling \$10 million with the purpose of securing our mission for perpetuity.

In 2015, we established the “Challenged Athletes Foundation Endowment in Memory of Robin Williams” to honor the priceless contributions Robin Williams made to CAF during his lifetime. Our longterm goal is to build our Endowment Funds to \$20 million primarily through designated gifts and estate gifts so challenged athletes always have the funding they need.

*Challenged Athletes Foundation®’s Fiscal Year begins April 1 and ends March 31.

**Program spending for SDTC is for the challenged athlete participation, travel and clinics offered during the event weekend.

PLANNED GIVING

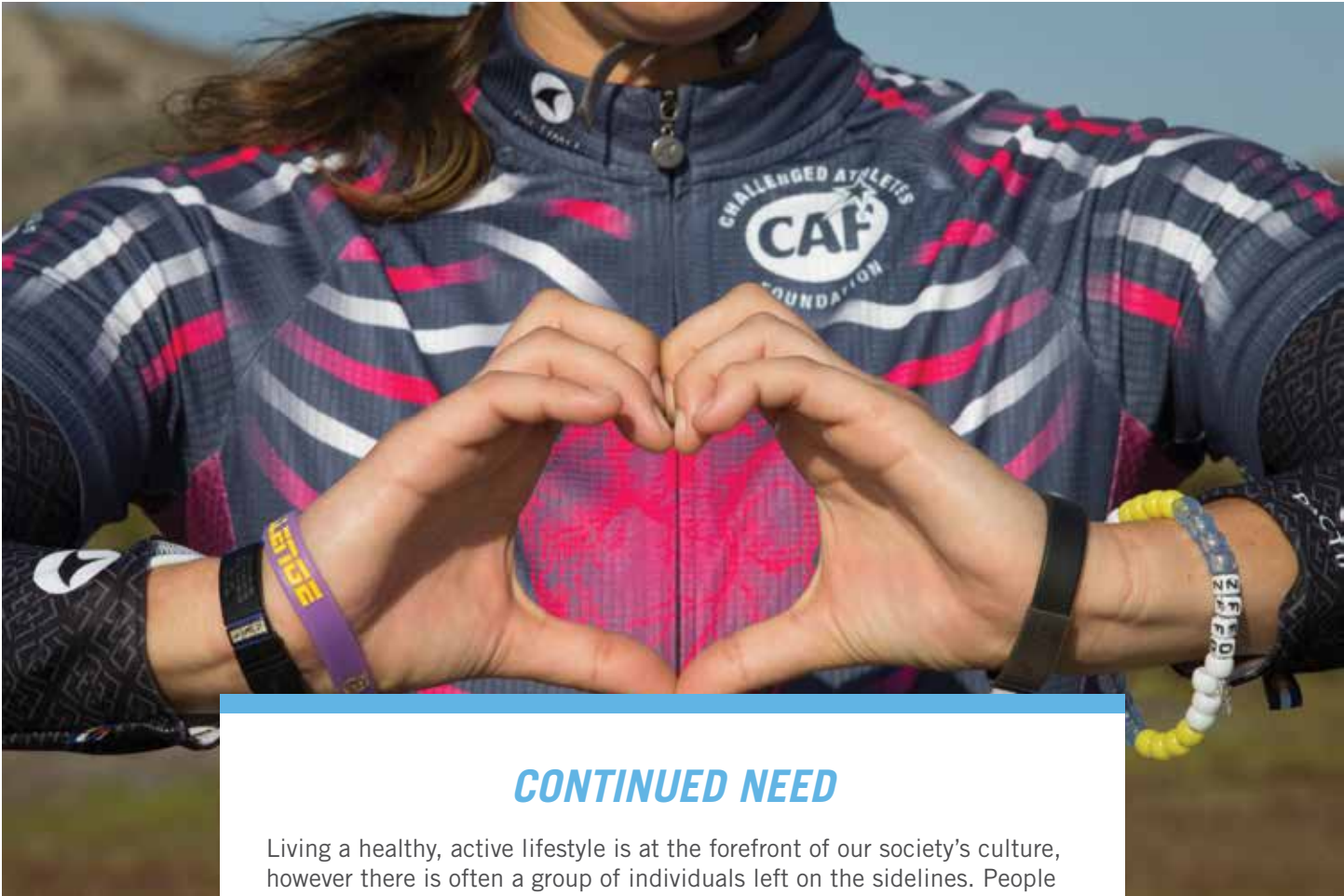
Planned giving helps individuals with their personal, financial and estate giving goals in ways that benefit both the donor and CAF. Bequests, insurance policies, IRA’s, gifts of securities or property and Charitable Remainder Trusts are just a few examples of planned gifts. Your generosity in planned giving will help CAF Secure our future.

Contact our Development team to create your CAF Legacy:

Virginia Tinley | virginia@challengedathletes.org
Executive Director

Doug Olson | doug@challengedathletes.org
Sr. Director North East Region

Sora Chung | sora@challengedathletes.org
Sr. Director Northern California Region



CONTINUED NEED

Living a healthy, active lifestyle is at the forefront of our society’s culture, however there is often a group of individuals left on the sidelines. People with physical challenges need and deserve equal opportunities to thrive in sports and be celebrated for their successes. And the impact of inclusion is immediate. Access to sports early gets people with physical challenges back in the game of life.

50% of all adults with a disability get no aerobic physical activity.*

Obesity rates for children with a disability are **38%** higher than for children without.*

Children and youth with a disability are **4x** less physically active than their peers without.*

18% of wheelchair users are employed. This number rises to 58% (over time) for those who participate in wheelchair sports.**

21 million people in the U.S. are living with permanent physical challenges.***

* <http://committoinclusion.org/>

**Source: Lastuka and Cottingham (2016)

*** US Paralympics, <https://www.teamusa.org/us-paralympics/about>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Founding Member

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Scott Stackman
Chad Jerdee

Advisory Committee
Clive Essakow
Justin Model
Sari Levy-Schorr
Alan Romick



25

YEARS

1993 - 2018

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

In 2018, we'll look back on 25 years of changing the world and look ahead to a future of impact, innovation, community and change. Be sure to reach out to your CAF contact to learn about the exciting ways to be involved in our 25th anniversary.



challengedathletes.org | [@CAFoundation](https://twitter.com/CAFoundation) | [#TeamCAF](https://www.facebook.com/TeamCAF)

