



Ability 1st Utah

Promoting Independence
for People with Disabilities

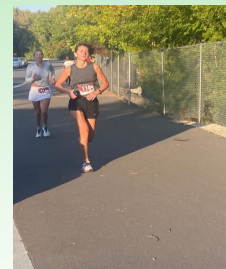
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VALUES STATEMENT

Educate, Respect,
Advocate, Support



5K/1k 2022

Runners, walkers, and those using assistive mobility devices of all ages and abilities will make the day an experience to remember! This race is an opportunity for service, fun, awareness, and prizes. It is a sanctioned race by US Track and Field. Our race will be held on September 24, 2022.

COME AND PARTICIPATE IN OUR 2022 RACE!

Nursing Home Transition Success Story 2021

Clifton Davison is a 60-year-old man with diabetes, heart failure and recently had his leg amputated below the knee due to a diabetic ulcer that wouldn't heal. When his wife called Ability 1st, he was receiving treatment at the Specialty Hospital and was needing to move to a Nursing and Rehabilitation facility to continue his care and rehabilitation. He was planning on returning home after his rehabilitation was complete but would need assistance with accessing assistive technology to assist in making his two-story town home accessible to him. He needed a bariatric manual wheel chair, transfer bench, and bedside commode, a transfer board, a hand-held shower, ramps and a stair lift in order for him to be able to care for his personal care needs independently in his home and to be able to access his home.

I completed loan bank and assistive technology referrals and emailed them to the Loan Bank and Assistive Technology coordinators. The hand-held shower, bariatric transfer bench, bedside commode and manual wheelchair were delivered to his home. An assistive technology evaluation was conducted and found that since Clifton and his wife are currently renting that in order for a stair lift to be placed, they needed to understand that if they ever move, they would be responsible for moving it and it was also found that there was no feasible way for an ADA code ramp to be placed at the home due to the architecture of it so it was recommended by the Assistive Technology coordinator that they find another organization to construct a ramp because when Ability 1st and the Utah Assistive Technology put in a ramp, it has to be up to ADA code.

In the meantime, Clifton also requested a super pole and lift chair to assist him with being able to get up and down out of a seated position. I packet was put on to the State for authorization of funding for the stair lift and for the lift chair. I had to advocate with the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation in Clifton's behalf because he needed the stair lift and lift chair to be in place when he transitioned back to his home from the Nursing and Rehab facility. After explaining the situation to USOR, they moved Clifton to the front of the list and the equipment was funded and the stair lift was installed by the time Clifton was released to go home. He had to wait on the lift chair because the vendor was behind due to Covid.

Ability 1st Utah EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Fiscal Year 2021

As of September 30, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

**TO RECOGNIZE, ADVOCATE, AND RESPECT EACH INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHT
AND ABILITY TO REALIZE THEIR DESERVED QUALITY OF LIFE.**

This will be accomplished by identifying needs, providing resources, strengthening abilities, and advocating social and political change for individuals with disabilities.

VISION STATEMENT

**To Integrate, Build, & Strengthen Abilities for
All Individuals with Disabilities.**

Celebrating 21 Years in Business!

Ability 1st Utah is celebrating our 21st year in business as a non-residential, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is committed to the Independent Living Philosophy.

Our Center assists each individual to live independently. We provide programs and services to people of any age with any type of disability in Utah, Juab, Wasatch, and Sanpete Counties.

Ability 1st Utah's 5 Core Services:

- ◆ Advocacy for Individual & Systems change
- ◆ Peer Support
- ◆ Information & Referrals
- ◆ Independent Living Skills Training
- ◆ Nursing Home Transition Services

All towards the goal of help individuals reach independence and self sufficiency in their chosen environment.

In addition to our core services, we provide Assistive Technology evaluation services, program specific transportation, and maintain an equipment loan bank consisting of used adaptive equipment for loan at no cost. We also have community integration activities and offer a Youth Program. Ability 1st Utah's programs truly empowers people with disabilities to live productive, successful, and self determined lives.



This Year's Goals:

- ◆ Our Employment Network's 9th year in operation! We have 23 beneficiaries assigned this year
- ◆ Number of participants served **1151**.
- ◆ Information & Referral services 619.
- ◆ **Outreach efforts:**
32 Presentations
9 Fairs.

INSIDE:

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Provided Services P.2

Success Story P.2

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2021 10K-5K Race P.4

Success Story P.4

Thank You to Our 2021 5K -10K Run, Walk & Roll Race Sponsors!

CASH DONORS

Central Bank	\$10,000
Zions Bank	\$1,000
Rock Canyon Bank	\$500.00
Molina Health Care	\$500.00
The Advocates Attorneys	\$500.00

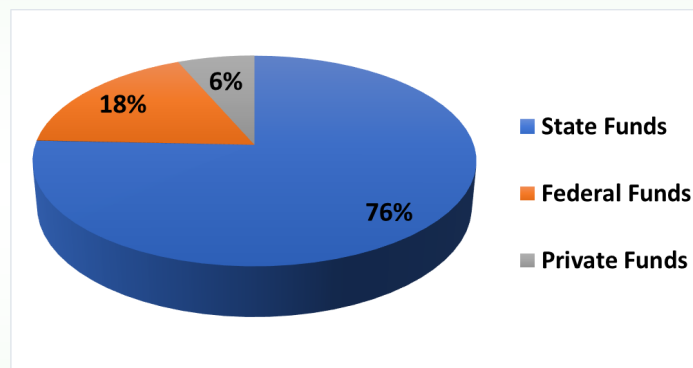
IN-KIND DONORS

Honey Baked Ham	\$500
DoTERRA	\$315
Splash Summit Resort	\$1209
Marriott Hotel	\$279
Vision Wear International	\$300
DHI- Parking	\$250

Customer Services Received

	FY2020	FY2021
Number of Participants	1153	1151
Information & Referral Services	1093	619
Total Individual Services Received	3781	2632
Nursing Home Transitions	10	13
Diversion Services	56	32
Assistive Technology Services	299	354

Total Funding: \$999,976



Community Transition Success Story 2021

Lucia has been always a driven person. Originally from Mexico. Her and her past husband made the decision to come to the USA and seek new opportunities. After her husband passed away she encountered drastic uncertainty and many mentally and emotional abusive environments. Her son evicted her from their house and she ended on the street.

Her boyfriend picked her up and took her to his house where she lives there for a few months. She was living in a roach-infested house, barely able to afford to share the bills. He boyfriend had turned off the heater during the day because he said that she spent too much electricity. When she had been getting beaten by her ex-boyfriend and had not else to turn to. She was able to address to me her painful situations that had affected her life as a child. Lucia came to Ability1st for advice and ask to work. During one of many phone calls, and filling papers, finally she was able to apply and work for Easter Seal; She continues working with Easter Seal and very happy until her friend told her that she needed to move out within two weeks because he had sold the house.

Then, her struggles and anxiety started again I also assisted her to apply for Provo Housing and advocated on her behalf, and because she was victim of domestic violence, Provo Housing placed her on the top of the list and finally, she got the apartment and she is able to have the security and stability that she had been seeking, and allowed her to feel safe and be independent.

Holiday Party 2021



EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

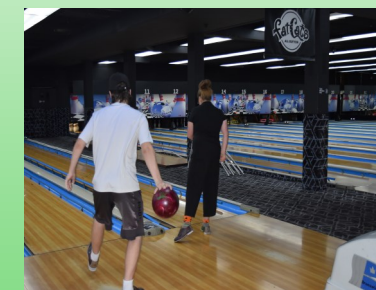
By Sandra M. Curcio, Executive Director

I am excited to bring you the 2021 annual report for Ability 1st Utah. This is our 21st year in business and we had an exceptional year of growth and development:

Our Center moved to a new location at 1455 West 820 North Provo, UT. We had been looking for an office to purchase that would give us the room to run our current programs and to expand our services into the future. We finally found that location and we have purchased the building. We are now in the process of acquiring funding to make some modifications to improve accessibility so that we can fully access the facility. We are so excited to have our own building that allows us to grow as an organization.

Our 18th annual "5K-1k Run, Walk and Roll" race was a great success due to the support we received from all of our sponsors and racers. This success would not be possible without enormous effort and dedication of all the Ability 1st Utah staff and volunteers.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we hope the annual report gives you a glimpse of the impact Ability 1st Utah has made on the many lives of people with disabilities.



Bowling

YOUTH PROGRAM & AT EQUIPMENT SUCCESS STORIES

YOUTH PROGRAM

Daniel started in our program this summer. In talking and interacting with him, we learned that he wanted to work a regular job, but he seemed to lack the confidence to take the steps necessary to do that. We worked with him and encouraged him to apply at his local Subway in Gunnison. He was hired immediately, but soon found that his work schedule conflicted at times with our summer program schedule. On a particular day he let us know that he had to fulfill his work commitment and would not be able to join the group as usual. To show our love and support for him, we decided to take the entire group to Subway that day for lunch. It was really exciting to see this young man thriving in his new job and how much he enjoyed the support of the program in his new role.

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The work of independent living is very satisfying most of the time. However, when I lose one of my consumers I always look back and ask myself "did I do enough for John; what more could I have done?" When I got the call from John's mother last Monday that John had died I felt a mixture of regret, sadness and joy. The regret was something I always feel, the sadness that I would no longer be able to see John, but the joy was the imagine that came to my mind when I heard he died. The image of John finally be able to speak, run, jump. I could see him sprinting from his wheelchair and never looking back.

His mother thanked me and Ability 1st Utah for all the help that their family received during his 17 short years of life. John's was never able to receive services from Utah various Medicaid Waiver Programs. He was still on the waiting list at the time of his death.

John needed a bathroom redo so he could bathe, toilet and take care of hygiene in the family home. We helped the family get the assistive technology that allowed John to be fully integrated into family life; ways to get upstairs and downstairs, special eating utensils, and last but certainly not least use of apps and devices that helped John lose himself in the books he came to love listening to.

The family home was the place where John felt safe, loved and could be entirely himself. Our team, two prior coordinators before I got to know John, built a relationship with John and his family. We were all committed to keeping this young man with his family. Helping them to overcome barriers that at the time seemed impossible to bridge. John's story is a true success story even though he's not here with us any longer. I will miss him.