



**NDAD**

Network Development and  
Administration

# What is NDAD?

NDAD is a non-profit, charitable organization founded by concerned citizens for the purpose of assisting people with mental and physical disabilities in the state of North Dakota, many of whom are not eligible for services from other agencies.

## **NDAD Mission Statement:**

The mission of NDAD is to enhance the quality of lives of individuals facing health challenges.

# How NDAD Started

- NDAD began at a kitchen table with a group of parents who had a friends or family members with a disability, led by Ron & Faye Gibbens – a grass roots organization.
- Many individuals with disabilities were not eligible for assistance from existing agencies.
- Individuals with disabilities were often living without necessary medical equipment or services.
- The goal of NDAD is to raise funds to assist people with disabilities to live more satisfying and productive lives.

# Client Services

- Financial Assistance
- Equipment for Loan
- Information and Referrals
- Advocacy
- NDAD Financial Loan Program
- NDAD Transplant Grant

# Financial Assistance

- Funds generated by the Organization
  - Personal Attendant Care
  - Durable Medical Equipment
  - Home Accessibility / Vehicle Accessibility
  - Limited Medications
  - Limited Medical Travel

\*Some restrictions may apply and NDAD guidelines will be followed.

# Financial Assistance

- Funds Raised by Community Projects
  - NDAD may act as a custodian of any funds raised through community projects.
  - These funds can be used to help the person with a disability with any appropriate expense within IRS guidelines.
  - Money from community fund raising can be used for the same type of expenses as those generated by NDAD as well as things like hospital, clinic or doctor bills or other disability related costs
  - Since NDAD is a 501(C3) organization, donations made to NDAD for the community project are tax deductible if you itemize.

# Equipment for Loan

- NDAD offers a loan program at no charge for individuals to borrow a piece of equipment.
  - Short term loans – 3 months or less
    - Walkers
    - Commodes
    - Wheelchairs
    - Scooters
    - And much more

# Equipment for Loan

- Vans with ramp
  - NDAD offices in Grand Forks, Minot and Fargo have a van with a ramp available for loan to individuals in the community who use a wheelchair.
  - The van can be used for out of town medical appointments or for local appointments and/or events. Any out of state trips must be for medical purposes only and be approved by NDAD.
  - There is no charge for the use of the van.
  - The van should be returned clean with a full tank of gas.
  - Donations are accepted.



# Information & Referral

- One of NDAD's goals is to assist people to receive help through other agencies. Often the person is not aware of available services or does not know how to access them.

# Advocacy

- Protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities is a primary concern of NDAD.
- Every effort is made that individuals receive the services to which they are entitled from the appropriate agency.

# NDAD Financial Loan Program

- The purpose of this program is to expand personal financing options for North Dakotans to purchase assistive technology (AT) devices and services.
- Individuals who may have difficulty obtaining conventional financing may be eligible for financing through this program.

# NDAD Financial Loan Program - Continued

- Loans from \$500 to \$50,000
- Low interest rate
- Flexible payback terms
- Loans can be used for:
  - Accessible van
  - Home modifications
  - Electric wheelchairs / scooters
  - Plus numerous other items

# NDAD Transplant Grant

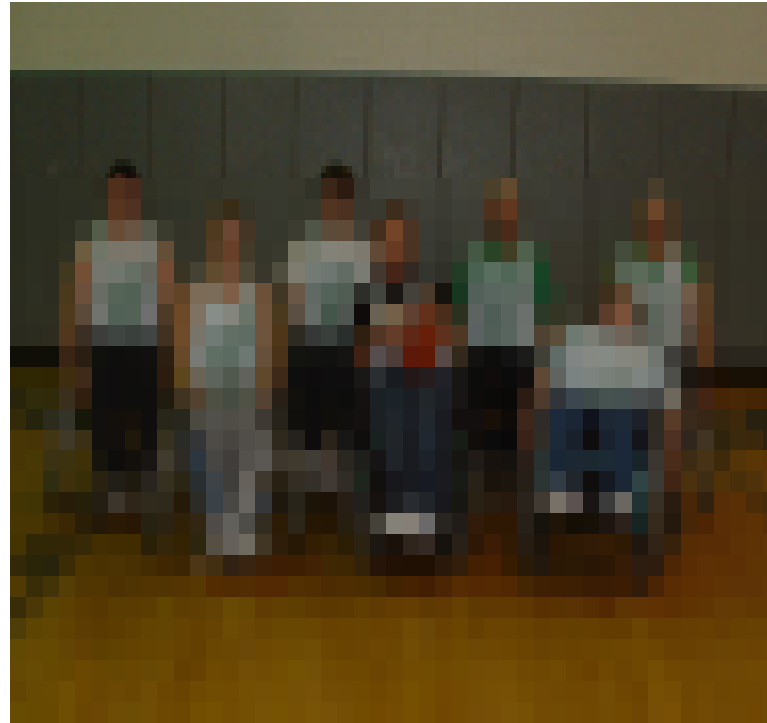
- The Organ Transplant Fund was established by the ND Legislature in 1991.
- Dollars for the Organ Transplant Fund are generated from state income tax refunds of under \$5.00.
- Funds raised help individuals alleviate demonstrated financial needs related to costs associated with transplant operations not normally covered by insurance.

# NDAD Brings People Together

- Escape to the Lake  
(Adaptive Water Skiing)



- Wallbangers  
(Wheelchair Basketball)



# Escape to the Lake

- Annual adaptive water skiing event for people with disabilities held at Nelson Lake, near Center, ND.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> largest adaptive water skiing event in the nation.
- Participants from around the state come to discover the thrill and excitement of water skiing.
- Professional instructors from Texas Adaptive Aquatics provide training and specialized water skiing equipment for those participating.
- Water ski teams perform ski shows and also provides side skiers.

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# Wallbangers

- NDAD sponsors a wheelchair basketball team – The Wallbangers.
- Participants from around the state come together to hold exhibition games/fundraisers.



# Guidelines

- NDAD works with private, state and federal agencies; so as not to duplicate assistance provided by these organizations
- As a non-profit organization, funds are limited. Therefore, NDAD is unable to grant every request.
- Assistance is provided on a priority basis, according to established guidelines.
- Assistance may also depend upon available funds in the applicant's area.

# Success Story – A Gift of Life

- Laurie Janssen was the picture of health when she was a child. When she was in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade she suddenly began experiencing swollen ankles.
- She was diagnosed with Wilson's disease, an inherited disorder that causes too much copper to accumulate in the liver, often destroying the organ as it did in Laurie's case.
- Four weeks after her first symptom appeared she was airlifted to the University of Minnesota hospital and was placed at the top of the national transplant list. Two days later she began to hemorrhage, signifying that she was at the end stage of Wilson's disease.
- The next day a donor liver from Oklahoma became available and was successfully transplanted into Laurie.
- A few years after her transplant, Laurie was contacted by the family of the organ donor. The family flew her to Oklahoma so they could meet. The donor was a 12 year old boy who had been accidentally run over by a go-cart driven by his grandfather. Laurie said the meeting was very cathartic for her and his family.

# Success Story Continued...

- Laurie said, “Saying thank you seemed so inadequate given the loss they endured, but it was wonderful to be able to thank the family.
- Now age 35, Laurie’s health has been good since her transplant. She has been able to work and live a fulfilling life.
- However, the high cost of her anti-rejection medication was causing a financial hardship for her. She contacted NDAD for assistance paying for her anti-rejection medication.
- For the past year, NDAD has paid for Laurie’s anti-rejection medication. Laurie says, “I am so incredibly grateful to NDAD for all the help they have given me.
- NDAD is the administrator for the North Dakota Organ Transplant Fund. The ND Organ Transplant Fund was established by the legislature in 1991 to help individuals alleviate demonstrated financial needs related to costs associated with transplant operations not normally covered by insurance.
- If you or someone you know needs or has had a transplant and need financial assistance for costs associated with a transplant, please contact NDAD.

# Board of Directors

- Ron Gibbens, President, Grand Forks, ND
- Wendall Grondahl, Secretary/Treasurer, Maddock, ND
- Cindy Sheldon, Director, Bismarck, ND
- Bob Mongeon, Director, Minot, ND
- Mike Berg, Director, Fargo, ND
- Anne Putbrese, Director, Grand Forks, ND

# NDAD Website

[www.ndad.org](http://www.ndad.org)

- Client Forms – NDAD Client Application
- Current News and Information
- Quarterly Newsletter –(to read or sign up to be put on mailing list)
- Success Stories
- Wheelin' and Dealin'
- External Resources
- Donate Now

# NDAD Offices

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

- Questions?
- Please feel free to contact a NDAD office near you.