

2021 EXPAND Beyond Adaptive Waterski Volunteers

Cory Lasher, Board Member, Shore Boss



Cory worked for the City of Boulder EXPAND Program as a Therapeutic Program Coordinator for 24 years and retired in 2020. Through her 24-year career with EXPAND, Cory had coordinated fundraising events and was responsible for developing and promoting recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities. Recreational programs including the adaptive water-ski program, outdoor adventure, fitness, cultural arts, day trips, special events and a seven-week summer camp for youth and young adults with disabilities. In January of 2004, Cory developed and implemented a recreation/leisure program for adults with Mild Traumatic Brain Injury called Journeys through EXPAND. Cory has been on the EXPAND Beyond, Inc. board since March 2020 and continues to help coordinate this fabulous program after retirement as a volunteer.

Rodger Stewart, EXPAND Beyond, Inc. President & Boat Driver



Rodger Stewart, with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Colorado, has over 40 years' experience in the medical device industry since starting with COBE Cardiovascular in 1977 and most recently completed 18 months as CEO of a venture backed medical device startup in Israel. Mr. Stewart retired in July of 2008 and has been focusing his efforts on giving back to the community. He is on the Board of Directors for ColoradoFIRST, a Colorado 501(c)(3) focusing on STEM development in grades K-12, since June 2009. Mr. Stewart joined the Board of Directors for Expand Beyond in July 2010 and has been a volunteer boat driver for EXPAND since June 2009.

Greg Singer, Board Member, Equipment Dude, Part-time Dock Boss, and General Goofball



Greg has lived in the area since 1974 when he moved down from Fargo, ND. He attended school in the area and served in the Army following High School. Once he was discharged from military service Greg went back to school and earned an ASS in Electronics Technology and worked for StorageTek/Sun Microsystems until being laid off. He now works for Frontier Airlines as a Technical Writer. Greg has been involved with the Expand Adaptive Waterskiing program since 2000, first as a participant, and when he realized he could be more useful, began volunteering.

Brian "BJ" Sample, Board Member & Dock Boss



Brian Sample graduated from Colby College with a BS in Sociology, moved to Colorado in 1997 and worked for Imagine! (Boulder Counties Community Centered Board). Brian staffed and managed homes for persons with developmental disabilities until 2005. Since then Brian has worked in the commercial and residential mortgage lending business and is currently an Asset Manager with Mercy Loan Fund. Brian is a certified adaptive snow sports instructor and has volunteered for Winter Park and Breckenridge adaptive programs since 1998. Brian has been a volunteer with EXPAND since June 1998.

Bill Schwab, Boat Driver



I'm a native to Boulder. In 1977 my brothers put me on a styrofoam block at the Boulder Rez in early spring and let me go, the wind caught me and I floated half way across the lake until a canoe came and got me. My brother thinks that why I have such good balance having to learn at such a young age, I was 6. After high school I went into Army Corps of Engineers, became a plumber and worked as a contractor in Boulder for 20 years, buying properties along the way. Now I am just focused on property investment, owning storage facilities and rental properties, and most of all spending time with my beautiful wife of 15 years and our two young girls who are 10 and 8.

Paul Lealman, Jet-Ski Driver



Throughout the school year I teach Physical Education in south Boulder at Creekside Elem. During the summer, I spend a lot of time volunteering out at the Boulder Reservoir. I grew up in Florida, spending a lot of time sailing and skiing on the Indian River. I love sailboat racing and just being on or around the water. I have sailed the Expand sailing group for the last several years also.

Becky Stewart, Quick Release



Becky Stewart was born in California, but moved to Colorado at the age of eight. After graduating from the University of Colorado with a BS in Sociology, she worked for over 20 years in Promotions at various radio and television stations in Denver. After retiring she has volunteered with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office as a Victim Advocate for 10 years, is still volunteering with BCSO in their Training Office, and has also volunteered with the Dive Pirates, a program which takes adaptive divers on SCUBA diving trips. Becky has been a volunteer with EXPAND since June 2009.

Ben Domeier, Jet-ski Driver, Starter & Rescue



Hello! My name is Ben Domeier and I did my internship with EXPAND years ago and work part-time for the city and various places. I attended Minnesota State University Mankato. I truly enjoy the outdoors and love being able to help people out. Some of my favorite activities to do in my free time include hiking, fishing, hunting, snowboarding, and road biking. I am really looking forward to being involved in the water ski program and seeing the smiles on all the participants' faces.

Dan Rau, Rescue



I grew up in Eau Claire, WI and graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. Throughout high school and college, I skied 6 summers for the Eau Claire Ski Sprites Water Ski Show Team where I had a fantastic time and met some lifelong friends. I also taught waterskiing at a few area youth camps. I have been in CO for 4 years and love the people and outdoor adventures available here. I have been a pilot for 16 years flying the last 10 years for Southwest Airlines. I look forward to this volunteer opportunity and meeting some very interesting people.

Michelle Patterson, Rescue



Originally a Badger from Wisconsin, I moved to Denver in 2011 to take advantage of the four seasons of outdoor sports! I'm excited to take on this new adventure of helping others enjoy their outdoor passions. I graduated from UW Madison in 1996 and practiced as a pharmacist for 19 years. I'm currently enjoying "first retirement" and looking into new career prospects

Darrell Daley, Boat Driver



Lianne Daley, Quick Release



Ron Lever, Jet-ski Driver



Ron Lever is recently retired from the construction industry after 35 years as an owner of a subcontracting company specializing in commercial construction. As an avid water skier at the res from many years ago, I look forward to working with the skiers as well as the other volunteers and getting back on the water.

Josh Jansen, Boat Driver, Sea doo Driver and Rescue



Josh is originally from Wisconsin and grew up boating with his family. While living there, he was a member of three different show ski teams over 15 years, and all of them hosted adaptive ski clinics. Shortly after moving to Colorado, Josh needed to satisfy his urge to get on the water. This led him to discover the EXPAND Beyond Program and he fell in love with it. Josh knows the therapeutic benefit of being on the water firsthand and he wants to help others to experience that too. Josh finds great satisfaction in getting someone out of their wheelchair, on to a sit ski, and watching their excitement of being free on the water. If he is not driving his boat, you can find him driving and/or jumping off a Sea-Doo, helping BJ on the dock, or on the shore giving Cory grief.

Shannon Kenney, Quick Release



Living whole-heartedly as founder of Earth Yoga Studio and the School of Embodied Poetry, Shannon is a writer, teacher and mentor of teachers around the world. She is a storyteller, sommelier and TedX speaker. Shannon infuses her bodies of work with a fullness, artful living and passion for life on and off the mat. Her instruments of instruction are detailed and clear, while woven through a progression of imagery, poetry and truth. She encourages the practitioner to unlock the secrets held in the human heart and release stuck patterns that no longer serve, in order to attain new levels of integrated physical - emotional embodiment. She is described as 'confidently vulnerable'; as a result, she inspires positive change in the lives of others. Off the mat, she loves to cook, teach wine tasting, wake surf, run, and enjoy the sunshine. Shannon is based out of Boulder, Colorado and her home studio, Earth Yoga Boulder. When not at home, she globe-trots to deliver transformative talks, trainings and retreats.

Jennifer Murphy, Rescue



Jen Murphy grew up on the ocean in New Jersey and is happiest when in the water. Living in Colorado, that means spending summer at the Boulder Reservoir. A freelance journalist, she writes about sports, fitness, food and travel for publications including the Wall Street Journal, Outside, Men's Journal, Conde Nast Traveler and more.

Mark Siebert, Rescue



Mark Siebert has a B.A. Health & Exercise Science, Specialization in Health Promotion & Fitness Management. Mark has eight years in the health and fitness industry. In 2009, Mark was an Intern for the City of Boulder Colorado Parks and Recreation where he worked for the city's Employee Wellness Program. During that summer he participated with the Expand program, performing such activities as adaptive water ski, adaptive kayaking, and adaptive hiking. Mark returned home to New Jersey where he worked as a Fitness & Wellness coach for Healthtrax a hospital based wellness program. During his time there working as a wellness coach, Mark trained members for rehabilitation needs, weight loss goals, athletic improvement, and special needs. Two years later, Mark found his way back to Colorado. He currently works as a Fitness & Wellness Specialist at the Anschutz Health and Wellness Center on the Colorado University Medical Campus.

Matt Feeney, Board Member, Instructor, & Land Buddy



After sustaining an unforeseen injury and becoming a paraplegic at the age of 25, Matt returned to work in the financial industry in Denver but soon longed for a more active and fulfilling lifestyle. In 1991, Matt moved to the mountains to pursue his love of skiing and was hired by the NSCD (National Sports Center for the Disabled) in Winter Park to run the sit-ski program, becoming the first person with a disability to hold such a position in the U.S. In his 10 years with the NSCD he not only saw the program more than triple in size but he also saw first-hand how participation in outdoor sports benefited the participants and in some cases was life-changing. It was also during this time that Matt discovered a love for other sports including water-skiing, hand cycling and mountain biking. This love of outdoor sports led Matt to recognize that there was a need in the adaptive sports world for a program that focused on the social aspects of sports in unique settings and provided information about all sports programs for people with disabilities around the county and Adaptive Adventures was born. Matt brings his extensive knowledge in adaptive sports and recreation to the board of Expand Beyond and enhances the lives of others who face similar challenges.

Shelly Fowler, Board Member & Dock Boss



Shelly Fowler graduated from Indiana University, Bloomington with a Bachelor of Science in Recreation, specialization in Therapeutic Recreation and a minor in Psychology. Shelly earned her Certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist (CTRS) in 1997 - present. She continued her education earning a Master of Arts in Teaching, Special Education, Specializations in Learning Disabilities and Behavior Disorders from National Louis University, Chicago, 2004. She moved to Colorado in 2005 to pursue a special education administration position within South Routt School District, South Routt Middle and High School. In 2008, Shelly moved to Boulder where she joined Boulder Valley School District, Boulder High School as a Special Education Teacher and Learning Specialist. To support her mission in creating holistic lifestyles for individuals with disabilities, Shelly designed, developed and opened a private practice, FourPoints in Boulder, CO, 2015. FourPoints provides therapeutic interventions in education, career, community, and recreation to encourage individuals to navigate independence. Shelly is actively involved in several adaptive sports organizations teaching alpine skiing, water skiing, sailing, and SCUBA diving. She spends her free time with her husband Dan, sailing, SCUBA diving, skiing, and enjoying the gift of life...recreation is her therapy.

Mia Upton, Starter & Rescue



Mia was born and raised in Boulder, Colorado. Her first job was lifeguarding for the City of Boulder. Mia is devoted to the study of Health and Wellbeing and being of benefit to better the world. The Adaptive Water-ski program bridges her passion for the Mind-Body connection and people in their healing process, all through adventure sports outside! If she is not supporting clients one on one, then most likely you will find her kite surfing, wake surfing, hiking, scuba diving, golfing, running or doing yoga. She states, "I am honored to be a part of this team that changes people's lives, one surf at time! "

Alex Tarrant, Ski Buddy



I decided to become a volunteer not only because Cory Lasher asked if I would be interested, but I too have a disability called Asperger's. EXPAND has helped me in so many ways, the staff helped me see my ABILITY and helped me to realize the things that I was good at. The program helps so many people with disabilities see their potential! I know how important these programs are to individuals because EXPAND has helped me grow and learn through the years. Now, I think I'm ready to give back and help make a difference in our community.

Katy Schwab, Starter & Rescue



My name is Katy Schwab and I have been volunteering for the EXPAND program for kids for 4 years. I work lake patrol at the reservoir and do some lifeguarding. I want to volunteer for the adaptive ski program because I have come to watch it many times with my dad and I have always wanted to get more involved. I have always had a passion for helping others. I want to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to have a great time out at the reservoir no matter his or her physical abilities!

Mia Schwab, Starter & Rescue



I have been volunteering with EXPAND since I was 11 years old and have always enjoyed it! I have been a part of the kids' sports program, Friday night fun, and Camp Amico. Ever since I was a baby, I have been going to the Boulder reservoir and spending many of my summer days there. I am now a lifeguard at the reservoir as well. I love water and all the fun that comes with it!

Mike Frailey, Equipment Set-up, Quick Release



Mike grew up in Michigan learning to waterski and operate a boat at an early age. He received his BSME and worked for Dodge truck, which brought him to Colorado on multiple vehicle development trips. He was inspired by the mountains, lifestyle and generous amounts of sun and moved to Boulder in 1997 with his 1982 Master craft in tow. He volunteered with EXPAND for 5 years in the late 1990s into the early 2000s. Now inspired by his own son with special needs and work-from-home flexibility, Mike is looking forward to sharing his love of the water and years of water sports experience with the EXPAND Beyond volunteers and program participants alike.

Shelby Panter, Starter & Rescue



Shelby is originally from Florida, has always loved being out on the water. She has a background as a Division 1 collegiate swimmer, beach rescue lifeguard and swim coach. After graduating from University of North Florida with an MS in Exercise Physiology and Chronic Disease, she moved to Colorado in 2019 to live the mountain lifestyle—skiing, snowboarding, hiking 14ers, camping, etc. Her full-time job is a Professional Research Assistant at the University of Colorado Anschutz, and her dream is to create exercise programs for clinical populations. This will be her first summer as an EXPAND volunteer and is thrilled to get to be a part of the program!

Nick Elzea, Jet Ski Driver, Starter & Rescue



Nick is a native to Colorado, and was born in Boulder and raised in Thornton where he still lives with his wonderful wife and two rambunctious young daughters. He is an Account Executive at Zivaro, a tech company in Denver, where he has worked for the last 15 years. They afford him the opportunity to volunteer through their generous volunteer time off program. Nick has always loved water skiing and water sports in general and has been participating in them his whole life. Mainly because of people in his family like "Uncle Bill" who is always, more than generous with his boat and toys to ride! Nick loves other adrenaline sports like skiing, and mountain biking. In fact, the first time he rode in an airplane he went skydiving (with Uncle Bill of course). Nick is very excited for the opportunity to help others enjoy the sports he too loves so much.

Nichole Hebert, Starter & Rescue



Nichole is originally from Emerald Isle, North Carolina and has a love for the water. She moved out to Colorado in 2016 for an internship with EXPAND, and has been in Colorado ever since! Cory's adaptive water ski program was one of her favorites to help with- being back in water, but then also seeing the therapeutic benefits and empowerment that this program provided for so many. She is very excited to spend a few days this summer with some amazing people!

Sherri Brown, Back-up Volunteer



Sherri worked for EXPAND as a Therapeutic Program Coordinator for 25+ years and retired in 2020. She has been boating for 25 years and her love for sports and the water continues on, as well as her passion for the EXPAND Program. Sherri is always willing to help and will jump in whenever and wherever needed.

Zach Pataska, Starter & Rescue



I enjoy spending time in the outdoors with my fiancé, Carlie, and our dogs, Parker and Kora. Our favorite activities include hiking, camping, and finding places to swim. As a former EXPAND intern, I am so excited to have the opportunity to help with waterskiing again!

Brenn Anderson-Gregson, Starter & Rescue



Brenn is a Boulder native and loves all things outdoors, especially climbing, skiing, and outdoor beer. He currently works as a data analyst for a non-profit in Denver coordinating homeless services in the region. Brenn has been volunteering with EXPAND since 2013 and can't wait to get back out on the water.

Gabrielle Ranger, Starter & Rescue



Hello! My name is Gabby and I just graduated from Arizona State University studying biology/Spanish and will be working with AmeriCorps in Boulder this upcoming fall. I helped out with EXPAND a few years ago through a summer internship with the Parks and Rec and am looking forward to being out on the water again with the team!