

Empowe Empowe



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A LETTER FROM TURNSTONE'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Michael Mushett

In 2022, Turnstone celebrates our 79th year of service to our community and we are grateful to be an access point, supporting people of all ages with disabilities and their families.

Since our founding in 1943, Turnstone has grown to be a leader in disability services locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Our menu of programs has grown to be one of the largest offerings of services for people with disabilities under one roof in the country. Turnstone's team of passionate staff deeply invests in the goals, hopes and abilities of our clients and support from community partners have ensured that our doors are open and accessible to thousands of children and adults every year.

During our 2021-2022 fiscal year, Turnstone provided therapeutic programs for over 2,500 children and adults with disabilities and served over 44,000 people through systemic advocacy and inclusive community engagement efforts. And because of support from our funders, partners, and donors, we are able to ensure that

people with disabilities, their families, and caregivers in our community receive the support and services they need, regardless of their ability to pay.

As we learn more about Cami's and Bartolome's stories in this year's Annual Mission Report, the depth and heart of our community is evident. Whether it is donations of time, money or talents, we see that community is the lifeline connecting Turnstone's mission to the success of people we are privileged to serve. Now, more than ever before, our ability to bridge the gap between need and access makes all the difference in living a life full of possibilities for people who would not otherwise have access to resources and opportunities.

It is an honor to continue the tradition and mission demonstrated by our founders; a passion for inclusion, service, and empowering people with disabilities. The continued support from our community of volunteers, partners, and donors ensures that vital therapy, wellness and various support services will continue to empower people with disabilities to reach their full potential.

With gratitude,

Cami is a confident, outgoing 12-year-old girl who has a passion for competition and trying new things.

She enjoys spending time with friends, playing outside, caring for her cats, coloring, and sports. She has tried a variety of sports including, volleyball, basketball, sitting volleyball, adaptive tennis, adaptive surfing, baseball, track and field, biking, and more. Just like any athlete, Cami has faced obstacles, though some might say her biggest obstacle was one that reshaped her life at a very early age.

As an infant, she was diagnosed with Scleroderma, which was affecting the tissue and bone in her leg. Doctors recommended many surgeries that required long recoveries and had uncertain success rates. As Cami and her family considered their options, Cami's mom brought up the idea of amputation after her sister made the suggestion. Wanting Cami to decide for herself, her mom and dad educated her on what choices were possible and helped her understand the various outcomes. After weighing the pros and cons, praying, and learning about prosthetics and amputation, Cami made the decision, at age seven, to have an amputation.

"I asked her why and she said that she didn't want to have to wear funny shoes anymore and she said she wanted to beat her gym teacher in a race. Those were her top two reasons," said Cami's mom. Looking at pictures of cool prosthetic designs with her dad and knowing that she could improve her speed and ability to be competitive were also important

motivators behind Cami's choice.

"Before I got my new leg, it was hard to run and walk because of my foot and knee. It was hard to keep up with my friends and it was super annoying," said Cami.

Three months after her amputation, she was fitted for her first prosthetic leg. Within a week, Cami was out playing baseball with her team, The Wildcats. The amputation never seemed to weaken her ambitions. In fact, Cami and her family agree that it allowed her to do a lot more than she could before.

She wasted no time working hard to become the best athlete she could be. Coming from a competitive family, Cami is naturally driven to try new things without any hesitation. When she found Turnstone, it gave her more opportunities to try new things and improve her skills.

"When I first went to Turnstone, I had already had my leg for a year and I had just got my first running blade. I felt super proud of myself because



Click here to watch Cami's video story

I was running on a treadmill and it was super fun. I felt like I was at the highest level and it felt good to be at the top," beamed Cami with pride.

Since then, she has been an active participant in many different sports and recreation opportunities. One of her favorite activities has been the inclusive All Abilities camp where kids with and without disabilities spend time together trying a variety of new adaptive sports like baseball, volleyball, basketball, wheelchair basketball, and tennis. Cami also loves participating in the Turnstone Endeavor Games and adaptive tennis.

"Being at Turnstone it feels good to be around people like me because then we can compare and help each other learn, where if I am with my friends who have all four limbs, I can't always do everything they do."

"One of the best things about being connected to Turnstone is not just the sports. The sports are kind of the reason you're there, but it's really the connection to this national community," said Cami's dad. "Turnstone is very open and by being very open, they've connected us to people, outlets and services that expand our network and minds of possibilities."

Cami and her family are grateful for the possibilities that Turnstone offers through adaptive sports.

Because of Turnstone, Cami has the opportunity to embrace her inner athlete, make new friends with similar experiences, and discover new heights as she continues to grow and push herself past limitations.

Cami said, "It feels good to be achieving more and accomplishing more than I could."

As she continues to aim high for her future, she hopes to go to college for sports, travel the world and eventually become a physical therapist. Though life will likely bring more obstacles ahead, Cami has proven that she is ready to tackle any challenge as long as she has her tenacious attitude, Turnstone, and her community.



Bartolome (also lovingly known as Papa Tom) was living at home in Quezon City, one of the largest cities in the Philippines located just outside of Manila, when he experienced a stroke on November 2019.

Following the stroke, Bartolome's entire right side of his body was paralyzed and he struggled to do the things he used to do like walking, driving and talking. Just a few months after the stroke, the COVID-19 pandemic had sent the Philippines into a lockdown, which left Bartolome without the care he needed to recover successfully. His family was not sure what to do to help him because they were unfamiliar with the type of care he needed. They needed a place that would work with Bartolome to help him regain some of his independence and, hopefully, walk again. Unfortunately, they were having no such luck

finding a place that could meet his therapy needs in the Philippines at the time.

Bartolome and his son-in-law/unofficial caregiver, Dean, travelled to the U.S. to visit a family member who has lived in Fort Wayne for eight years with hopes to get the therapy that Bartolome needed to recover. What they didn't know is how many opportunities and milestones were ahead for Bartolome once he finally found Turnstone.

When they first arrived in the U.S. in April 2022, they met with doctors and therapists who told them that it would be impossible for Bartolome to meet his goals to walk and live independently again. This news shattered a lot of hope that the family had for Bartolome's recovery. On top of being unfamiliar with how to help rehabilitate Bartolome, his family didn't have any of the equipment or assistive devices necessary to take care of him so they

struggled to help. At that point, all hope seemed to be lost.

"I was shocked at first because even if I put in all the effort of taking care of him, I am thinking 'it might be useless' if [the doctors] say that it's impossible," said Dean. Receiving these opinions from multiple sources really devastated Bartolome and his family. "It was as if a bomb was dropped on us because we had expected that he would make a full recovery."

Finally, after doing some research and asking around, they discovered Turnstone. They were able to get connected with Turnstone's social services team and start a new journey of care for Bartolome. Social services helped them step by step in the process to get Bartolome set up with the services, equipment, and resources he needed to support his goals.

During the first week of May,
Bartolome and Dean visited
Turnstone and met fitness
staff. They were blown away by the welcoming atmosphere and the helpful Fitness Specialists.

"Papa Tom and I were really overwhelmed at first because we have never seen a facility like this in the Philippines. Yes, we have gyms and therapy, but Turnstone was different because it offers everything. This is really amazing!" said Dean. "Seeing this place gave me hope for [Papa Tom]."

While Bartolome awaited his start with therapy, he and Dean began to make Turnstone's fitness center a part of their regular routine to work on his strength. The Fitness staff welcomed Bartolome and Dean by demonstrating the machines and guiding them as they adjusted to the adaptive workout facility. "I love that we can do a variety of things here so

Papa Tom never gets bored. He has been able to try new things and discover things he likes to do. He really likes biking," laughed Dean. "We try to really maximize everything here and we come almost every day. We started to enjoy staying here for a few hours at a time."

Working out in fitness helped them establish a stronger foundation for Bartolome's recovery. Once they got set up with occupational therapy and physical therapy, Bartolome was able to practice more practical tasks for his day-to-day life and work towards specific rehabilitation goals. Dean and Bartolome have

a very collaborative relationship with the therapists, which has helped a lot in his progression.

"The first time we met with the physical therapist, he said 'nothing is impossible; it will be difficult, but nothing is impossible." This restored Dean and Bartolome's hope. "I'm so glad to have someone say that nothing is impossible," smiled Dean.

What once seemed impossible started to become possible this summer as Bartolome progressed through occupational therapy, physical therapy,

and speech therapy. Within a month at Turnstone, Bartolome was able to stand on his own and walk with assistance; he has even taken a few steps without any assistance. Though Bartolome will be returning to the Philippines at the end of October, he now has the foundation, tools, and hope to do more than he and his family ever thought possible.

"Without Turnstone we wouldn't have been able to do any of this because we had no idea of how to help Papa Tom out. I have learned so much here which I have really been practicing with Papa Tom," said Dean.

Turnstone may have been a short chapter in Bartolome's life, but thanks to people like you who support our mission, he found a community across the world that was dedicated to helping him reach his goals and live his life fully at home and afar.

He now has the foundation, tools, and hope to do more than he and his family ever thought possible.



FITNESS & AQUATIC CENTER

Turnstone's Fitness and Aquatic Center is unique to northeast Indiana. As a member of Turnstone's Health & Wellness program, Jomale engages with fitness specialists who help him set and meet his goals. Jomale has been a client at Turnstone for over 10 years and in that time, he has been able to establish a regular exercise routine, achieve his goal weight, and build his strength. He really enjoys the variety of weightlifting equipment and the relationships he has built with staff. Besides the fully accessible fitness center, Jomale also has access to Turnstone's, 230-meter track, group classes, and warm water therapy pool.

ADULT DAY SERVICES & MEMORY CARE

Andre has been coming to Turnstone's Adult Day Services (ADS) program for 21 years. During his time, he has made many memories and friends. While at ADS, Andre enjoys having access to the fitness center and doing activities with fellow clients. Turnstone's Adult Day Services meets the unique needs of adults and veterans with physical disabilities and offers them opportunities for socialization. Turnstone's Memory Care programs are also designed to maintain independence and enhance socialization for people with a diagnosis of Dementia or Alzheimer's, while offering additional support for family and caregivers.

SPORTS & RECREATION

Kadence was introduced to Turnstone's Sports and Rec program in 2021 while she was also receiving therapy. She competes on Turnstone's power soccer team and loves bonding with her new friends at practices. Turnstone offers competitive adaptive sports and recreational activities for children and adults with physical, visual, and intellectual/ developmental disabilities. Turnstone has competitive teams for wheelchair basketball, power soccer, sled hockey, wheelchair rugby, and track and field and is also one of nine designated Olympic and Paralympic Training Sites in the United States. It is also a proud home of the Goalball Center of Excellence in partnership with the United States Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) where the USA Men's and Women's Paralympic Goalball teams train.





ADULT & PEDIATRIC THERAPY

Rich came to Turnstone following a stroke to rebuild a foundation for himself. During his time with physical therapy, he worked on his strength and balance using our recumbent bike machine and he has worked on taking steps with his therapist. Turnstone provides physical aquatic, occupational, physical, and speech therapy services for children and adults of all ages. All therapists work in tandem with other agency services to provide a continuum of care, focused on empowering individuals like Rich to maximize their independence.

Raegan spends her days at Turnstone's Kimbrough Early Learning Center (KELC) playing with friends and learning about all kinds of new things. Since Raegan joined the Kimbrough Early Learning Center (KELC) last January, her mom can rest assured that she is receiving the type of care she needs from experienced staff—including speech and occupational therapy. KELC is a full-day inclusive childcare that takes into consideration the unique physical, developmental, and social needs of children ages 2-5 of all abilities. The program utilizes the HighScope Curriculum and provides a safe, accessible, child-centered environment. The KELC is a Level 3 Paths to Quality provider and licensed by the state of Indiana.

SOCIAL SERVICES/ COUNSELING

Turnstone's licensed social workers and case managers are the first point of contact for people interested in receiving services. Kirsten has found support, encouragement, and guidance from Turnstone's Social Services team and Counseling staff. Social workers and case managers provide referrals and support to help clients access agency services and other community resources, to help people like Kirsten find the resources and support they need. And, when life feels overwhelming, access to counseling at Turnstone provides another layer of support for navigating challenges.

Programs & Services



Sled Hockey

(Heartland League) Turnstone Flyers

- 20th in the Nation
- 4th in Tier 3 at Nationals
- 10th straight season Turnstone finished in Top 4 of their division
- State Champions (Inaugural Season)
- 5th out of 12 teams in the Heartland League
- Season Record: 16-12-2
- Elliot Mohre and Cai Davis earned spot at the USA Hockey Select Sled Camp

Wheelchair Basketball

(Varsity Division) Turnstone Flyers

- 23rd in the Nation
- Season Record: 8-8
- 5 athletes on Midwest Conference All-Academic Team (Cole Connelley, Micah Kling, Alex Haag, Mackenzie Haag and Zach Pfenning)

Power Soccer

(Premier Cup) Turnstone Flyers

- 2nd in the Nation
- Season Record: 12-7-2
- David Dowling earned National 1st Team
 All-Tournament and earned a spot on Team USA

(Founders Cup) Turnstone Flyers

- 36th in the Nation
- Kadence Waldron (1st year athlete) earned Founders Cup All-Tournament Team

Rowing

Turnstone's rowing program continues to grow as it's set to launch in the St. Joe River in the spring of 2023. Turnstone has partnered with the Glorious Gate Rowing Association, also known as G2, since the Fall of 2012. Getting ready for the outdoor training, Turnstone held indoor training sessions that included a rotating circuit of rowing ergs, stretching, free weights/resistance bands, and cardio workouts last year that will start back up this winter.







Butler Family Elite Athlete Scholarship Fund

Turnstone Center is proud to support the goals of its clients and athletes as one of nine Olympic and Paralympic Training Sites nationwide. Turnstone is committed to supporting the Paralympic movement and providing programs and opportunities for athletes to hone their skills and further their athletic goals.

launching the Butler Family Elite Athlete Scholarship Fund. This fund aims to support training and access to competitions for individual athletes pursuing Paralympic dreams. Learn more: bit.ly/3TIYSR7

This year, Turnstone and the U.S. Association of Blind Athletes (USABA) recognized Jake Czechowski as the 2022 honoree for the Ronald W. Plassman Gold Standard Award.

Established in 2021, this prestigious award will be presented annually each fall to deserving athletes, coaches and program supporters who demonstrate gold standard values lived out by the actions and support of Ronald W. Plassman (1940-2022). These include excellence on the field of play, sportsmanship, leadership, and championing the sport of goalball.

An employee of USABA and Fort Wayne resident, Jake Czechowski currently serves as U.S. Women's Goalball head coach and runs the USA Goalball Resident Program at the Goalball Center of Excellence located in Fort Wayne, IN. Nominations in support of Czechowski highlighted his nearly 20 years of collective contributions to the sport of goalball and the Paralympic movement, including international competitive successes of the U.S. women's team; navigating the USA Women's National Team through the pandemic to a silver medal finish at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games; his involvement in adaptive sports camps in Arizona and other grassroots education opportunities throughout the country which promote goalball and adaptive sports; empowerment of USA National Goalball Team athletes; and his investment in community support for the sport of goalball.









December 3-4, 2022

Power Soccer (All Cup Tiers)

January 21-22, 2023

Wheelchair Basketball (Jr Division) Regionals

February 4-5, 2023

Wheelchair Basketball (Divisions I, II & III)

February 18-19, 2023

Sled Hockey (Heartland League)
*Hosted at SportONE/Parkview Icehouse

March 4-5, 2023

Power Soccer (All Cup Tiers)

June 23-25, 2023

Turnstone Endeavor Games

*Hosted multiple locations including Turnstone



Giving Tuesday

November 29, 2022

This #GivingTuesday, we won't be able to do it without YOU. We need your help to ensure people with disabilities continue to have access to the services and resources offered through Turnstone to support their quality of life.

Casino Night

February 17, 2023

On Friday, February 17th, Turnstone is hosting it's 46th Casino Night. This evening is full of casino themed games, food, drinks, and prizes galore! From playing poker and blackjack to bingo and our famous wheelchair basketball shot contest, there is something for everyone!

Visit Turnstone.org/support/volunteer/ or scan the QR code for event volunteer opportunities.

Center Stage: Fort Wayne's Premier Talent Show

May 9, 2023

Center Stage: Fort Wayne's Premier Talent Show will feature local performing artists of all talents and abilities. Participants will be selected from online submissions, with the Finale Show scheduled for the evening of May 9, 2023 at the Clyde Theatre.

Push, Paddle, or Pedal

May 2023

Commit to logging 100 miles of your activity of choice and make a difference in the lives of children and adults with disabilities in our community through Turnstone's annual 'Push, Paddle, or Pedal' challenge event. Your registration fee and any additional funds raised will ensure that people with disabilities have access to the services they need most.

NE Indiana counties served through Turnstone's mission

pieces of equipment loaned for free to 383 individuals

volunteers & students provided 3,095 hours of support

people impacted
by Turnstone's
systemic advocacy
and community
engagement efforts

25.6 of our clients use multiple programs Year at a Glance

hours of therapy services provided 13,507

raised by donors & partners to ensure critical access to programs & services

2,506
clients served

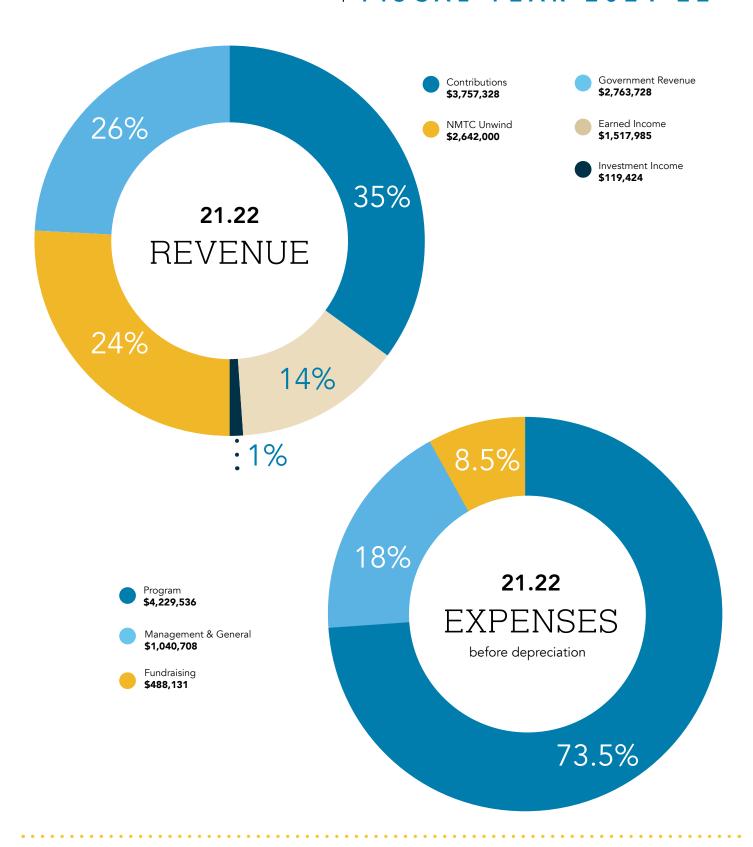
522



individuals & families received Turnstone's expert social services including Counseling.

Turnstone Budget Review

| FISCAL YEAR 2021-22



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Director of Adult Day Services and

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MICHELLE KIMPEL

Director of Sports & Recreation

EMILY WHITE

Director of Therapy

EJ WHITNEY

Director of Fitness, Aquatics, & High

Performance Sports

COLIN LYMAN

Director of Facilities

PAULA FOX

Director of Kimbrough Early

Learning Center





Our Mission:

Turnstone empowers people with disabilities to achieve their highest potential by providing comprehensive services and programs.

Our Vision:

Turnstone aspires to a world that accepts and values people based on their abilities.