

**SB 2304**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**Submitted by Don Santer for NDAD**  
**01-31-2023**

Chairperson Larson and Committee members, thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding the charitable gaming industry of North Dakota. I am submitting testimony in opposition of Senate Bill 2304.

My name is Don Santer, I represent the North Dakota Association for the Disabled (NDAD). NDAD is a statewide charity that for over 47 years has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons with disabilities. NDAD pays for most of its services with charitable gaming funds.

Senate Bill 2304 on the surface seems to be intended to prohibit gaming in gas stations, grocery stores, and convenience stores. However, the current wording of the bill may have some unintended consequences.

This bill creates a new definition:

2. "Alcoholic beverage establishment" means the licensed premises where alcoholic beverages are sold and dispensed under an on - sale license and patrons must be twenty - one years of age or older to enter. The term does not include a gas station, grocery store, or convenience store.

By using the words: patrons must be twenty - one years of age or older to enter.

This bill will eliminate restaurant bars, rural "café" bars, fraternal and veterans' clubs that sponsor community events, senior citizen centers, and convention and hotel centers.

NDAD does not support gaming in gas stations, grocery, or convenience stores but this bill affects much more than those locations. This bill could be used as an attempt to drastically reduce the number of existing locations and etab machines allowed for charitable gaming across the state. Charitable gaming in ND is very popular with a large portion of the public. There have been many efforts by charitable gaming opponents over the past few years to scale back or even strangle charitable gaming operations. Senate Bill 2304 may be an example of this.

North Dakota charitable gaming raised **\$73 million** this past fiscal year to be distributed in communities across the state. Charitable gaming also contributed over **\$43 million** in taxes this past biennium. A reduction of the existing number of gaming sites will have a colossal negative impact on charities' ability to provide important services in your own districts.

ND charitable gaming has methodically and responsibly grown over the past 40 years into a reputable industry benefitting nearly every city and county across this great state. North Dakota has developed a responsible and highly regulated system for charitable gaming to benefit charitable missions that serve your local communities. At best this bill will serve to severely hinder charitable gaming fundraising efforts and require

organizations to come to the state for funding they are currently providing for themselves.

NDAD would support a bill that excludes gas stations, grocery, or convenience stores as permitted gaming locations but this bill goes too far. This is why I am asking you to consider a **Do Not Pass** recommendation on **SB 2304**.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson and members of the committee, for your time and thoughtful consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Respectfully,

**Don Santer**, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer  
**NDAD**

[dsanter@ndad.org](mailto:dsanter@ndad.org)

Mobile: 701.212.7984

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





# NDAD

helping others to help themselves

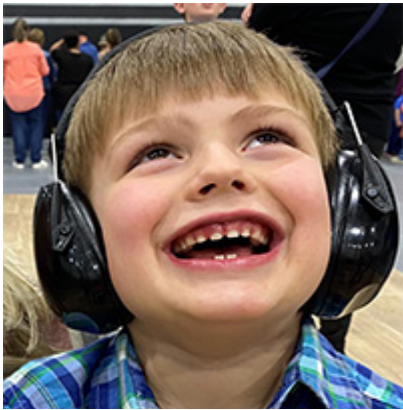
## 2022 Annual Report

### Our Purpose

NDAD (the North Dakota Association for the Disabled) is a nonprofit, charitable organization that assists people with disabilities in North Dakota. Our mission is to enhance the quality of lives of individuals facing health challenges.

### Who We Help

Here are a few of the many people who shared their NDAD story with us:



**Josiah - Steele**

**His condition:** Autism

**How NDAD helped:** Medical travel expenses to OT/PT and speech therapy.



**Audrianna, Kayden & Charleigh - W. Fargo**

**Their condition:** Behavioral Health issues

**How NDAD helped:** Respite care due to behavioral health needs.



**Gary - Grand Forks**

**His condition:** Diabetes, charcot foot and toe amputation

**How NDAD helped:** Purchased scooter lift for independence.



**Andrea - Minot**

**Her condition:** Diabetes, Cardiomyopathy

**How NDAD helped:** Medical travel expenses and medical supplies.



**Kenneth - Ellendale**

**His condition:** End Stage Renal Disease

**How NDAD helped:** Fuel assistance for monthly dialysis travel and prescription assistance.



**Teresa - Williston**

**Her condition:** Knee Replacement

**How NDAD helped:** Borrowed equipment through our Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP)



## Programs Provided

- Direct Financial Assistance
  - Healthcare Equipment Loan Program
  - Adaptive recreational events and activities
  - Community fundraising projects
  - Organ Transplant Fund
  - Information, referral and advocacy
  - Crisis residential services
  - Transitional living services
  - Housing for people with serious mental illness who are in need of supportive services
- To read more about these programs, visit [ndad.org](http://ndad.org).

## 2022 At a Glance

- 4,436 pieces of medical equipment loaned, saving North Dakotans over \$569,882
- 3,906 prescriptions filled
- 2,885 medical trips funded
- 235 pieces of medical equipment and 436 medical supplies purchases
- 196 wheelchair-accessible van loans made to 89 individuals
- 18 grants, totaling \$141,068 awarded to organizations to assist individuals with disabilities
- 5,136 accessible rides funded
- 27 people assisted with short term crisis stabilization
- 7 people with serious mental illnesses provided with supportive services to remain independent
- 39 people with a behavioral health diagnoses assisted with medication monitoring
- 34,743 interactions made, such as phone calls, emails, and other communication

## How We Spend Our Money



- 84.6%: Program Services  
\$2,083,843
- 13.7%: Management and General  
\$337,383
- 1.7%: Fundraising  
\$44,734

*\*Information based on 2021 fiscal year*