

# Enhancing Our Impact

## 2024 Annual Report

### Our Purpose

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

### Who We Help

Here are a few people from each of our regions who have shared their NDAD story with us. See all at [ndad.org](http://ndad.org).



#### Kristi Dilger

(Bismarck)

Condition: Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis

**How NDAD helped:**  
Medical Equipment



#### Anne Compton

(Grand Forks)

Condition: Parkinson's Disease

**How NDAD helped:**  
Community Fundraiser



#### Roger Wilson

(Dickinson)

Condition: Lymphoma

**How NDAD helped:**  
Prescription Assistance  
Medical Travel, Lodging



#### Lynette Deaver

Condition: Anxiety, Depression, Arthritis

#### Larry Hanson

Condition: Anxiety, Depression, Epilepsy (Minot)

**How NDAD helped:**  
Paratransit Assistance



#### Greg Lane

(Fargo)

Condition: Diabetes, Chronic Kidney Disease, Coronary Artery Disease

**How NDAD helped:**  
Prescription Assistance, Equipment, Paratransit Assistance



#### Geno Williams

(Williston)

Condition: Autism

**How NDAD helped:**  
Adaptive Recreation Assistance

# Community Impact

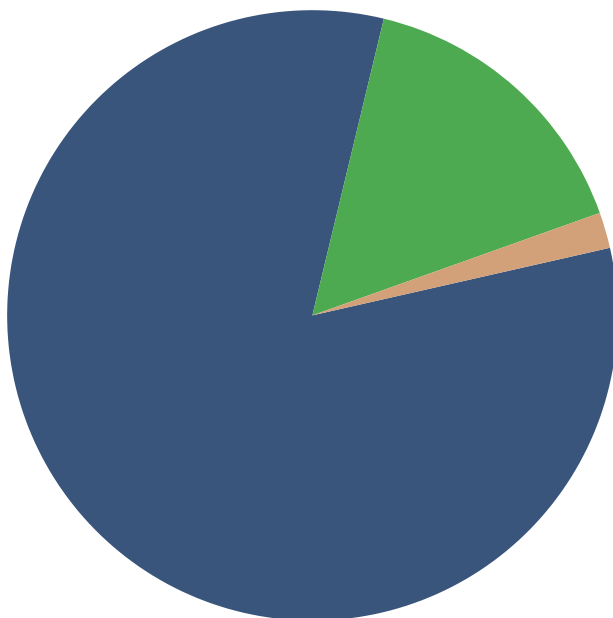
- Direct Financial Assistance
  - Prescription Medication
  - Medical Equipment & Supplies
  - Medical Travel
  - Accessibility & Paratransit
- Healthcare Equipment Loan Program
- Adaptive Recreation Events & Activities
- Community Fundraising Projects
- Organ Transplant Fund
- Information, Referral and Advocacy

To read more about these programs, visit [ndad.org](https://ndad.org)

## 2024 at a Glance

- Loaned **5,424 pieces of medical equipment** to **2,940 individuals** saving North Dakota residents **over \$664,040**
- **6,121 prescriptions** filled
- **2,134 medical trips** funded
- Purchased **328 pieces of medical equipment** and **567 medical supplies**
- **Wheelchair-accessible van** loaned to 126 individuals for **246 trips**.
- Funds totaling **\$100,050 awarded to 24 organizations** to either assist individuals with disabilities or those otherwise at risk
- **8,049 accessible rides** funded for employment, shopping, and community events
- **4,465 hours** personal attendant care, respite care provided
- **50,665 interactions made**, such as phone calls, emails and other communication

## Financial Impact\*



**82.4%**

Program Services

\$2,235,103

**15.8%**

Management & General

\$428,292

**1.9%**

Fundraising

\$53,248

**Testimony for SB 2224**  
**Senate Judiciary Committee**  
**Provided by Don Santer, NDAD**  
**01-28-2025**

Chairperson Larson and committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding the charitable gaming industry of North Dakota. My name is Don Santer, representing the North Dakota Association for the Disabled (NDAD). For 50 years, NDAD has been dedicated to improving the quality of life for persons with disabilities and health challenges across North Dakota.

NDAD is a non-profit, charitable organization serving individuals with health concerns and disabilities throughout the state from our six locations in Bismarck, Dickinson, Fargo, Grand Forks, Minot, and Williston. In 2024, NDAD assisted thousands of North Dakota residents with more than \$2.23 million in services and resources that may have been otherwise unavailable to them. We work diligently to avoid duplicating services provided by other state or local entities, making us a crucial last resort for many individuals.

In 2024, NDAD funded the majority of its services through charitable gaming funds, which enabled us to make a significant impact on the lives of people with health challenges and their families:

- **6,121 prescriptions for covered medications:** Ensuring individuals have access to necessary medications to manage their health conditions.
- **2,134 out-of-town medical travel trips:** Providing transportation for essential medical appointments, reducing the burden on individuals and their families.
- **8,049 accessible rides for employment, shopping, and community events:** Facilitating independence and participation in daily activities.
- **24 organizations were awarded \$100,050 in funds to assist individuals with disabilities or those otherwise at risk:** Supporting other organizations in their efforts to improve the lives of people with disabilities and health challenges.
- **328 pieces of medical equipment and 567 medical supplies purchased:** Ensuring individuals have the tools they need to manage their health and maintain their independence.
- **40-50 individuals assisted with adaptive recreational activities annually:** Promoting physical and mental well-being through inclusive recreational opportunities.
- **Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP):** Serving several thousand households with 5,424 pieces of equipment, equating to a savings of more than \$664,000 for North Dakota residents.

Additionally, NDAD administers the North Dakota Transplant Fund and provides information, referral, and public awareness to North Dakota residents. Our mission is to serve the residents of North Dakota, and it is through charitable gaming that we are able to fulfill this mission. The services provided by NDAD are not just beneficial but essential for improving the lives of people with disabilities and health challenges. They offer the support needed to overcome barriers, achieve personal goals, and live fulfilling lives. By ensuring access to these services, we create a more inclusive and equitable society for everyone.

I would like to express my strong opposition to **SB 2224** that seeks to abolish the State Charitable Gaming Commission and transfer all its authority to the Office of the Attorney General (AG).

**Background:** The State Charitable Gaming Commission has been a dedicated body overseeing charitable gaming activities, ensuring they are conducted fairly and transparently.

This commission, appointed by the governor, should have specialized knowledge and experience in regulating charitable gaming. It is responsible to develop and seek out specialized expertise in the regulation and operation of charitable gaming. This expertise is crucial for maintaining the integrity and transparency of these activities. Transferring all regulatory authority to the AG's office, which has a broader mandate, will dilute this specialized focus. The current structure allows for efficient oversight and regulation of charitable gaming. The commission is solely dedicated to this purpose. That is the reason almost all industry types are governed by a commission or board.

**Checks and Balances:** Separation ensures that no single entity has unchecked power. Maintaining divided responsibilities creates a system of checks and balances where the rule-making body can create regulations, and the regulatory body can enforce them. This helps prevent abuse of power and ensures that regulations are fair and balanced.

**Creation of a "Gaming Czar":** This bill effectively creates a "gaming czar" by consolidating all regulatory authority within the AG's office. Such centralization of power is concerning and could lead to less transparency and accountability to the industry in the regulation of charitable gaming.

**Transparency and Accountability:** When the rule-making process is separate from the regulatory enforcement, it promotes transparency and accountability. The rule-making body can hold open meetings, gather public input, and ensure that the regulations are created in a transparent manner. The regulatory body, on the other hand, should be focused on enforcing these rules without the influence of creating them.

**Expertise and Specialization:** A gaming commission often include experts and stakeholders who understand the intricacies of the industry and can create well-informed regulations. Regulatory office, meanwhile, specialize in enforcement and compliance. This division allows each body to focus on their strengths and ensures that regulations are both practical and enforceable.

**Avoiding Conflicts of Interest:** If the same authority is responsible for both creating and enforcing regulations, there is a risk of conflicts of interest. For example, a regulatory office might create regulations that are easier for them to enforce rather than what is best for the public or the industry. Separation helps mitigate this risk by ensuring that those who enforce the rules are not the same ones who create them.

**Public Trust:** A clear separation between rule-making and regulatory enforcement is meant to enhance public trust in the regulatory process. When the public sees that regulations are created through a transparent process with input from various stakeholders and enforced by a separate, impartial body, it can increase confidence in the fairness and effectiveness of the regulatory system.

In summary, maintaining separation of entities that regulate from those that determine the regulations ensures a balanced, transparent, and effective regulatory system that can better serve the public interest. For this reason, I urge you to consider a **DO NOT PASS for SB 2224** and maintain the gaming commission.

Thank you for your time and consideration please consideration.

Respectfully,

Don Santer,  
North Dakota Association for the Disabled (NDAD)