

Adult Special Olympics Sports



Serving:

FCA All Abilities started sports with the Loveland Adaptive Recreation programs. We learned quickly that many of the sports needed coaches. We wanted to serve where there were needs. So, we jumped in to volunteer with basketball and softball to start. The past two years because of our incredible coaches and high school volunteers through Young Men Service League, National Charity League and FCA leaders from UNC, CSU and NoCo high school campuses, we have grown every program. Not just in numbers, but in skills and social development. We have also developed relationships within this community that has resulted in many of our athletes coming to Bible studies and getting involved in church and small groups.

This summer we had two CSU softball girls and the community relations coordinator from Scheel's and three former high school softball athletes serve as our head coaches. With their expertise in fundamentals, our athletes grew so much in their softball skills. We participated in scrimmages with the Greeley Adaptive Recreation team as well as with the Loveland Fire Department and Special Olympics regional and state tournaments. Relationships were developed and grew in our community. It is so great to have relationships with first responders as many of our All Ability athletes get very nervous in emergency situations. How great to get to know our fire fighters and police officers so if or when an emergency arises they feel much more comfortable within those situations.

We have also been so blessed by our volunteer basketball coaches that bring so much joy, energy, love and great skill to our basketball program where we serve as volunteers for the Adaptive Recreation program. So many relationships have been made and many new relationships have been formed because of the excellence in the sport and in our desire for true community to take place. Many parents/caregivers who never even came into the gym are now coming and staying and meeting other parents/caregivers. This is huge as many of our parents don't have community either. This has allowed for opportunities to share our faith and our life. We have helped many of our families who are in need with their car issues, fees for sports and equipment, and food.

Sports are the vehicle for relationships. We are grateful that we get to serve so doors are open for life on life relationships and sharing Jesus when we are given the opportunity. We have to be very careful in the context of the city in the area of faith, so we serve, serve, serve and when doors open, we are ready to share. Each one of our athletes and their families/caregivers are very much a part of our lives. Come to any of our sports and you will be encouraged!

Because of our serving, we have been invited to the Special Olympics state conferences, asking to lead break out sessions and coaching sessions. It is our prayer that we serve the Special Olympics so well that they see Jesus in and through us.

We have the great opportunity as FCA All Abilities to join Athletes in Action this summer at the Special Olympics state games in Minnesota. We will be able to serve the Special Olympics by volunteering as well as providing an opportunity to share our faith!