



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

**Shared Adventures is a Nonprofit Organization  
Dedicated to Improving the Quality of Life  
for People Living with Disabilities.**



**Permanent Shared Adventure Mural at Ramsay Park in Watsonville, CA**

**PO Box 396 ♦ Santa Cruz, CA 95061 ♦ (831) 459-7210**

**[www.SharedAdventures.org](http://www.SharedAdventures.org)**

**Tax ID #77-0366565**

## Letter from Founder/Executive Director, Foster Andersen

Dear Friends, I'm happy to report Shared Adventures had another very productive year. We coordinated over 170 activities during 2025, involving over a thousand participants of all ages and abilities. Many of these activities were co-hosted or supported by partner organizations and community connections. And hundreds of community volunteers helped share the adventures.

Activities included social events as well as athletic and physical experiences. These activities contributed to the health and well-being of our participants, as well as families and the general community.

Activities included: Adaptive Fitness at a gym, Kayak rides, Archery, Art Class, Monterey Bay Aquarium Trips, Bingo, Rock Climbing, Bowling, Sailing, stROLLS (walk/hikes), Fun Themed Dances, Outrigger Rides, Santa Cruz Warrior Games, Roller Skating, Gardening, Horse Experiences, Wheelchair Basketball, and Whale watching, as well as Day on the Beach, Day in the Park and Camp Adventures (family summer camp).

We continued our accessible rentals inventory with adult and children's beach wheelchairs, an All-Terrain TracChair, an All-Terrain Emmax3, two motorized wheelchairs, a Tandem bike, Mobi Mats, portable ramps and a fleet of beach chairs providing a much-needed resource for people with disabilities to access state parks and beaches.

We provided advocacy for the disabled community on committees, task forces and communications with city, county and state organizations. We maintained the Access Guide to Santa Cruz County and took part in many fund-raising and community representations.

Shared Adventures would not be where it is today without the amazing organizational skills from Becky Gomoll, SA Program Director, Geneva Sarvis, SA Administrative Manager, Steve Miller, SA Board Chair, Cecely Cahill, SA Treasurer, Daryl Wise, SA Board Member, Brenda Gutierrez, Board Member, Eli Cooper, Day on the Beach coordinator, Alex Hughes, SA stROLL's docent, Art teachers, Garden teachers, Physical Fitness teachers, Archery program leaders and a countless number of volunteers. All these people have made a huge impact on so many people's lives.

Let the adventures continue for many years to come!

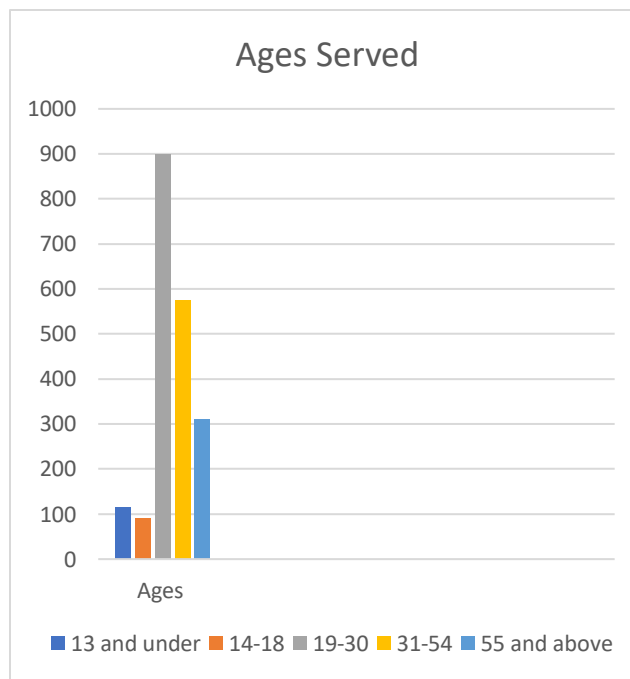
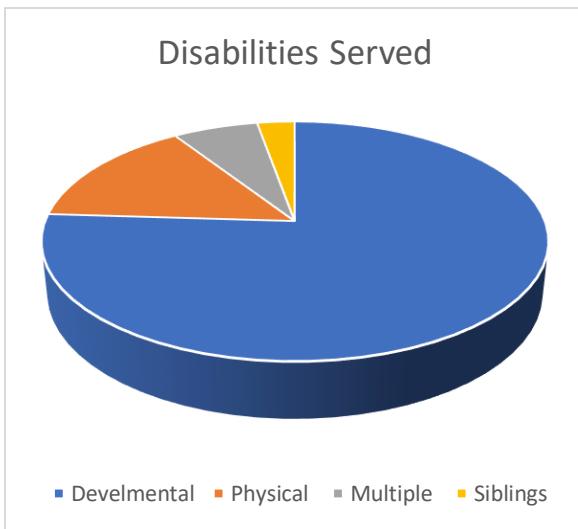
Foster N Andersen

In 2025, Shared Adventures offered around 250 activities and served nearly 2000 individuals of all ages and abilities. There were 25 different types of activities and had about 500 volunteers.

We make every effort to provide activities and adventures that will spark joy, promote social interaction, connection within the community, and challenge each person to try new experiences.

Our goal is to add recreation and social activities to help create a well-balanced life.

Shared Adventures programs are for any age and ability.





## Our Activities Include:

All Year	Summer	Winter
Fitness – Wed and Friday	Sailing	Indoor Rock Climbing
Art – Sundays	Kayaking	Bowling
Swim Time	Garden Club	Science Club
Bingo		Aquarium Visits
Archery		
Horse Experience		
stRolls		

Seasonal		
Circus	Ano Nuevo	SC Warriors
Ice- Hockey	Night to Shine	Dances (spring and Halloween)
Wonderball	Soccer Games (MBFC)	Day on the Beach
Camp Adventures	Skateboard Day	Holiday Train
Nutcracker	Drama performances (CYT)	Roller skating
Wild Mind Science	Kid Power Training	Author Talks

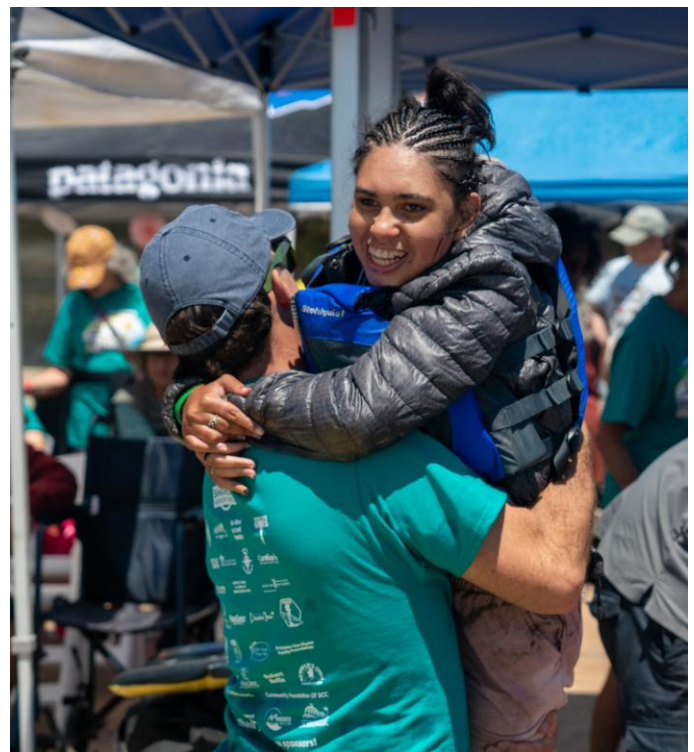


**Day on the Beach #32** was another amazing day of free activities and festivities at the beach. Over 250 participants were provided with kayaking rides, out-rigger rides, SCUBA experiences and beach wheelchair rides. Several bands provided music throughout the day, along with a DJ, MC and magician.

Lunch and snacks for over 600 party goers and volunteers were served. We owe special thanks to the Sai Baba group and Achillies by the Sea for providing food and serving an abundance of delicious and nutritious meals.

There were several resource and educational tables featuring local marine science, recreation agencies and non-profits which provide community service. The always popular caricature artists, art and craft activities and games provided all day fun for everyone.

It was a record day for smiles and fun, everybody enjoyed a splash of the ocean, seeing otters and seals up close, greeting old friends and trying new activities, it was a special day for all.



Main Street on the platform



Launching a kayak



The outrigger crew



Getting her feet wet



Senator Laird welcoming the crowd



Our diversity program: cats and dogs are welcome



# Camp Adventure

Camp Adventures is our over-night family camp that is made possible by a grant from Reflect Kindness ([www.reflectkindness.org](http://www.reflectkindness.org)), which covers most of the cost of camp so our families can come together and have a few days together enjoying camp activities, socializing with other families, and being free to be who they are without judgements or looks. For a lot of our families this is their only family vacation as it creates a safe space for the person with disabilities. The camp is staffed by many volunteers who look forward to coming out each summer to share their talents and give a helping hand any way that is needed. The camp focuses on campers ages 5-25 but is not limited to those ages. The camp is ADA accessible and thus those with mobility challenges will be prioritized. It is a few days that everyone looks forward to for the whole year. For some it is part of their summer schedule/tradition, and it wouldn't be summer without Camp Adventures.



## Adaptive Fitness Class

Every Wednesday and Friday, approximately 8-10 athletes and their caregivers gather for adaptive fitness class in Santa Cruz and Felton respectively.

The participants lift weights, stretch, bike, row and do body weight exercises. The workout is kept nearly the same each week, but as athletes become stronger, they use heavier weights, complete more repetitions, and add variations to their routines. Both caregivers and volunteers provide personalized modifications and adapt as needed for the person or the day. While each athlete follows the provided workout according to their abilities, there are ample opportunities for fist bumping, cheers, and encouragement amongst the participants.

There is a comradery that is so sweet and special amongst all who are there. The consistency of attendance indicates that these athletes find value in this Shared Adventure program.



## Art Class

The Shared Adventures art class continues a 20+ year activity of creativity and social time. Every Sunday we offer an art class for people to come and let their creative side shine. It is also a time to connect to others as everyone (caregivers, volunteers, and participants) are gathered around the round tables and can share ideas, talk about their lives, and listen to each other.

It is time to just relax a little and let loose. Nothing is required, but creativity is encouraged, with project themes and instruction presented each week.

We hold this time at the Mid Town Community Center, we have access to a big room, tables/chairs, and ADA bathrooms. Parking is ample and smiles are plentiful.





## 2025 Board of Directors

**Foster Andersen** - Founder/President, Shared Adventures

• [Foster@sharedadventures.org](mailto:Foster@sharedadventures.org)

After a motorcycle accident that partially severed his 5/6 Cervical Vertebrae and having to use a wheelchair at age 17, Foster Andersen pushed himself through college at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) as a manufacturing engineer. Foster joined a brand new "sit ski" program there for spinal cord injuries, and embraced the idea of providing extreme adventures for persons with disabilities. Foster moved to Berkeley in 1987 to get involved with the Bay Area Outreach & Recreation Program (BORP) and Environmental Traveling Companion (ETC) to future expand his outdoor adventures.

**Steve Miller** - Board Chair

• [Millers@cruzio.com](mailto:Millers@cruzio.com)

Steve Miller has served as a manager of government programs on the local, state and federal levels.

He is retired and active in numerous community organizations and activities. He has been on the Board of Directors since 1997, where he was responsible for the original series of grants to the Packard Foundation and Newman's Own Foundation which resulted in the Santa Cruz Access Guide.

**Cecily Cahill** – Board Member

• [cecahill@gmail.com](mailto:cecahill@gmail.com)

Much of Cecily professional experience in education has involved the special needs community including volunteering with Environmental Traveling Companions in the San Francisco Bay area. Cecily helped drive Shared Adventures program expansion from the original single Day on the Beach event to include the many activities offered throughout the year. Cecily is dedicated to enriching the lives of others.

**Daryl Wise** – Board Member, Community Relations

• [dsw@StreetWisePR.com](mailto:dsw@StreetWisePR.com)

Daryl Wise has been an independent marketing communications, PR and event contractor living in the Monterey Bay area for over 25 years. He has worked for clients including: Macworld expos, the artist Peter Max, HP, Corel, Marine artist Wyland, Microsoft, Bill Graham Presents, The City of Watsonville, Laguna Seca Raceway, MTV, O'Neill Inc., Rogers and Cowan Public Relations, Shandwick Convergence Public Relations, The Sea Otter Classic, Meals on Wheels of Santa Cruz County, and the Catalyst Nightclub. He also serves on the non-profit board of the Friends of Watsonville Parks and Community Services.

**Brenda Gutierrez Baeza**- Board Member, Spanish Healthcare Interpreter

• [bgutierrez060694@gmail.com](mailto:bgutierrez060694@gmail.com)

Brenda joined the Santa Cruz County Commission on Disabilities in 2016 and has been involved with many projects. In 2015, she became a member of the Santa Cruz Playground Project to help the efforts of creating LEO's Haven, the first inclusive playground in Santa Cruz County. She started working with County Park Friends as a Community Mobilization leader representing the disabled community and promoting accessibility in nature. As well as advocating for disability inclusion, Brenda also strives to break down language barriers in her Latino community by working as a Healthcare Interpreter and translating important information to Spanish speakers.

# \$100+ Donors 2025

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**Tammie Van Sant**  
**The Allison Lee Condit Foundation**  
**The Tokeneke Foundation**  
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**William & Mary Crews**  
**William Thanos**



# Revenue & Expense Report

## January 1 – December 31, 2025

<b>Carryover from 2024: \$124,121</b>		
<b>Income</b>		<b>Total (\$)</b>
<b>Programs</b>		
321 Life +1 Project		14,577
Activities & Events - General		11,653
Accessible Equipment Rental		4,710
Camp Adventures		4,693
Cynthia Ranii Project		25,157
Interest Earned Banking / CD		1,957
Investment Income Unrealized Gain		3,721
<b>Fundraising &amp; Grants \$3,000 +</b>		
Builders First Source		4185
Caroline's Thrift Shop		10,000
Community Donations		81,187
City of Santa Cruz		17,257
Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County		15,000
Disney Employee Match Cyber Grant		14,000
Escher Fund for Autism		10,000
Kaiser Permanente		4,500
Newman's Own Foundation		10,000
Patagonia		25,000
Shatz Family Foundation		6,500
St. John Episcopal Church		3,000
Santa Cruz County Parks & Recreation		5,000
State Coastal Conservatory		20,000
Reflect Kindness		22,920
The Tokeneke Foundation		5,000
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>\$320,017</b>



# Revenue & Expense Report

## January 1 – December 31, 2025

Expenses		Total (\$)
<b>Programs</b>		
321 Life Project		9,124
Activities & Events -General		26,595
Accessible Equipment Rentals		7,460
Adaptive Fitness	Instructors /Rent	7,244
Art Classes	Instructors/Rent/Supplies	6,523
Camp Adventures		27,672
Cynthia Ranii Project		24,663
Day on the Beach		22,083
Donations	Nonprofit Sponsorships	1,979
Staff Wages -Programs/Events		30,011
<b>Operational</b>		
Fundraising		1,606
Liability Insurance		5,261
Office & Computer Supplies		459
Office Space		2,6781
Outreach & Advertising		4,158
Meetings		2,396
Staff Wages -General Operations		84,585
Storage		10,288
Legal & Professional Fees		1,675
Web based Support		8,818
		<b>Total Expenses: \$285,278</b>
		<b>Revenue Over Expenses: \$38,459</b>
		<b>Overall Total Carry Forward: \$162,580</b>



**PO BOX 396, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061**  
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