



Preventing Sexual Abuse in Disability-Specific Sports Organizations

IMPACT
R3 2018-2019
\$50,000

Develop sexual abuse prevention programming and model policies for adaptive sports organizations that addresses the unique realities of athletic organizations for people with disabilities.

Communities

Adults
Athletes
Boys
Bystanders
Coaches
Disabilities
Girls
Men

Students
Women
Youth/Adolescents/
Young Adult

Products

Curriculum: ASAP
(Adaptive Sports
Abuse Prevention)

Resource: Athlete
Safety Policy
Resource: Preventing
Sexual Abuse In
Adaptive Sports
(Webinar)

System:

Sport
Level:
Local
National



Strengthen Policies

Developed a webinar to address organizational policy and leadership for sexual abuse prevention designed for executive directors and program leaders of adaptive sports organizations.



Measure Impact

Held two focus groups with adaptive sports program staff and one focus group with adaptive sports program athletes. Conducted an anonymous survey of athletes with disabilities from competitive levels ranging from recreational to elite sport. Sought 5 key informant interviews with executive directors and leaders. The pilot curriculum underwent process evaluation prior to finalization. The outcome evaluation was designed in collaboration with the Institute for Community Health. The pretest/posttest assesses changes in knowledge, self-efficacy, behavioral intentions, and the extent to which coaches and trainers are using skills they learned.



Train & Educate

Piloted a 5-session sexual abuse prevention curriculum for leaders, staff, and volunteers of adaptive sports organizations. Conducted 9 pilot sessions (Goal of 6) reaching a combined total of 210 adaptive sports professionals (Goal of 100).

The first train-the-trainer program for adaptive sports coaches to learn the ASAP curriculum will be held at the [National Adaptive Sports Conference](#) in November 2019.



Enhance Partnerships

Enhanced work with national Paralympic movement leaders and the pilot was expanded to Spaulding Adaptive Sports Boston, the Access Recreation Conference of New England, University of New Hampshire Adaptive Sports, and Maine Adaptive Sports. The project also brought together leaders from Disabled Sports USA, Adaptive Sports USA, and US Center for Safe Sport for continued discussions about the curriculum.



Provide Resources

Created and disseminated a replicable curriculum to adaptive sports that trains staff to recognize and prevent abuse. An organizational policy and leadership for sexual abuse prevention webinar designed for executive directors and program leaders of adaptive sports organizations.



Learning Circles

While initially planned to pilot curriculum modules in the Boston area, adaptive sports organizations in Maine and New Hampshire expressed interest and will be participating in pilot trainings. Presented the curriculum at the National Adaptive Sports Conference in Phoenix. Co-presented a Webinar on PreventConnect.

What's next:

IMPACT received a grant in December 2018 from the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation to replicate ASAP through a train-the-trainer program.

Contact:

Meg Stone, Executive Director
781-388-4337
mstone@impactboston.org