



ur daughter, Erin, has skied with the Adaptive Sports Foundation in Windham for the past nine years. The impact this program has made in her and our family's life is immeasurable.

Erin, 14, was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder at the age of 22 months. At the time we did not know if she would walk or talk, let alone ski down a mountain. To this day it still takes my breath away to see her climbing aboard a chairlift and gliding down the slopes smiling and chatting alongside her ASF instructors.

Our family owes so much to the Adaptive Sports Foundation. The dedication and commitment of this exceptional community provides us with a unique opportunity to participate and enjoy a sport and time together. Whether for sports, school, or social events, most of the year Erin goes in one direction while her three younger brothers go in another. But for several weekends each winter all four of them get up, pull on their ski boots and head out to the mountain together. The significance this holds for a family with a special needs child cannot be understated.

In this way the ASF empowers not only men, women and children with disabilities but also, and sometimes even more so, the people who love them. As a mother, the gratitude I feel for the ASF instructors is beyond words. Every moment Erin spends skiing with them, is a moment I never thought I would see - and I know countless parents and siblings who feel the same about their ASF skier or snowboarder.

For every ASF participant there is a mom, a dad, a spouse or a sibling whose gratitude knows no bounds. On behalf of each and every one of us, I thank you for taking the time to learn about the ASF and, if possible, lending your support to this phenomenal program.

Sincerely,

Eileen

Eileen F. O'Connor ASF Board Member and Parent



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## **Mission**

The Adaptive Sports Foundation (ASF) is a non-profit organization that provides profound and life changing experiences for children and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities and chronic illnesses through outdoor physical activity, education, support and community.





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