



Dear ASF Community,

Eight years ago, I suggested to my older daughter, Abby, that we begin teaching adaptive skiing at the Adaptive Sports Foundation as a father-daughter activity. Abby has always taken pleasure in helping people, so I figured she would enjoy volunteering at the ASF—though I had no idea just how right I'd be!

Abby's foray into adaptive skiing didn't actually begin when she was a teenager. It started nearly 30 years ago when her mother, Amy, and I were skiing in Windham and happened upon what was then called the Disabled Ski Program. We were so impressed by the volunteers who gave their time, energy, and compassion to make sports fun and accessible for people with disabilities that we decided to volunteer ourselves. Not long after that, the DSP became the ASF, and Abby was born into the ASF family!

When Abby and I started volunteering together, I couldn't believe how many people remembered two-year-old Abby! Even on our first day back, we felt so welcome, like we were returning to a big, caring family.

Since then, Abby has used what she learned at the ASF to guide her life's choices, even shaping her career, and I couldn't be prouder. It brings me immense joy to watch her work and thrive in this environment.

As for me, skiing has always been something I love sharing. Whether it's being outdoors in the winter, learning new skills, feeling the thrill of speed, or experiencing the sense of freedom and connection that comes with the sport, teaching adaptive skiing at the ASF allows me to share all these things I love with people who genuinely benefit from the power of adaptive sports. Volunteering with the ASF is something I hope to continue for as long as I can. It just makes me feel that good.

If, like me, you believe in the value the ASF brings to people's lives, I hope you'll consider supporting the 2025 Annual Fund. Your contribution helps keep this incredible program going strong so more students, families, and volunteers can share in the same sense of joy, connection, and purpose that have meant so much to my family and me over the years.

With gratitude,

Barry Schwartz
ASF Volunteer



Dear ASF Community,

It's hard to put into words just how deeply this program has shaped my life.

I began volunteering when I was too young to know who I was—but the ASF quickly became an anchor in my journey growing up. I joined the program during my sophomore year of high school, drawn by my love of skiing and my desire to help others. My dad recognized these qualities in me and encouraged me to volunteer. What I didn't realize then was how much joy I would find in sharing this experience with him.

Over the years, my dad and I became an unbeatable duo. He taught me to ski when I was little, so I always trusted his skills and instincts. On and off the slopes, our conversations often revolved around teaching—we'd swap ideas, troubleshoot challenges, and share strategies for helping each student we worked with. Having him as both a role model and my dad is something I'm endlessly grateful for.

In those early days, I felt entirely out of my depth. I had never taught before, and I was far more shy than I wanted to admit. I clung to my dad's side as he introduced me to people who knew me from before I could talk, back when my parents first began volunteering with the ASF. At the time, I hadn't yet registered that these and other colleagues would soon become my chosen family.

That's the magic of the ASF—it brings people together from all walks of life and turns them into a family that believes in one another. The positive energy radiating from the lodge is impossible to miss. Even in the middle of summer, I find myself daydreaming about the snow, my skis, and the smiling faces I'll see when winter returns!

The ASF has helped me grow into the strong, confident woman I am today. This past May, I graduated with my Master's in prosthetics and orthotics, a decision fueled by my desire to continue serving the kind of community that helped shape me.

The world needs more places like the ASF—organizations that give people the chance to discover their best selves. I know that what my dad and I do each winter on the snow doesn't just matter—it changes lives.

If you believe in the power of community and the difference it can make to people with disabilities and chronic illnesses, I hope you'll join me in supporting the ASF's 2025 Annual Fund.

With gratitude,

Abby Schwartz
ASF Volunteer