Summer 2014

you



Road to Rio Athlete Updates PAGE 8

Come to the Sports







PossAbilities at LLUMC



Joshua Dotson is a brain injury survivor who volunteers more than 300 hours a year to PossAbilities.

Benefits of **Membership:**

- Social, recreational and community activities
- Peer mentoring
- Educational learning
- Adaptive and wheelchair sports
- Support groups
- Competitive team activities
- Women's, youth and family activities
- Holiday parties
- Grant and scholarship program
- PossAbilities & You newsletter
- Discount prescription program
- Discount to on-campus cafeterias
- Discount to the **Drayson Center**

Call 909-558-4975.

About **PossAbilities**

ossAbilities is a community outreach program of Loma Linda University Health East Campus. Membership to PossAbilities is free, and there are no age restrictions. PossAbilities provides resources and opportunities for people with diverse physical disabilities. Membership gives you the opportunity to find new direction and hope through physical, social, educational and spiritual interaction with your peers and the community. Visit our office or our website online to learn how PossAbilities can benefit you.

Staying Active

You will have many opportunities to get active and stay healthy while making new friends. If you are interested in wheelchair sports, recreational activities, support groups and more, we have the connections for you. You can even get a discounted gym membership to the Drayson Center as a member of PossAbilities. Take advantage of adaptive workout equipment at a world-class facility.

Belonging

We want you to feel connected. Whether you received care at Loma Linda University Medical Center or heard about us later, you can be a part of PossAbilities. Our goal is to provide you with the opportunities and tools you need to succeed and feel good about yourself.

Peer Support

Many people with disabilities are looking for encouragement, emotional support and a firsthand positive viewpoint from someone who has been there. Participate in the peer support program by volunteering your time to reach out to someone who needs it most.

Become a Support Member

Rehabilitation health care professionals, physicians, therapists, family members and friends are all welcome to join PossAbilities as support members. Your time, resources and financial contributions are vital to the ongoing success of PossAbilities.

Connect with Us

Office Location

PossAbilities Professional Plaza 25455 Barton Road Suite 109A Loma Linda, CA 92354

Phone and Fax 909-558-6384 phone 909-558-6334 fax

Website www.teampossabilities.org



Learn more about featured PossAbilities members and becoming a member or volunteer. Just snap a photo of this icon with your smartphone.



The Inaugural **Power of Inclusion** 5K

his year, a 5K run, walk and roll kicked off the International Food Festival and the second annual Power of Inclusion conference sponsored by Loma Linda University Health (LLUH). The annual event shines a light on diversity and inclusion as powerful ingredients that enrich learning and healing experiences while strengthening community relations. Open to the public, this year's conference theme, Talent Has No Boundaries, highlighted the important contributions that people with disabilities make to our society. It brought together nationally renowned speakers and celebrities, including Academy Award winning actress Marlee Matlin, and accomplished guitarist Tony Melendez, who was born without arms.

For this first year, PossAbilities partnered with LLUH to host the inaugural Power of Inclusion 5K. The race attracted more than 300 runners, with and without disabilities, for a race around the city of Loma Linda. The proceeds from this event in the amount of \$5,822 were donated to the Grant and Scholarship fund for PossAbilities.

"We couldn't be more grateful that employees, community members and supporters of PossAbilities contributed to a cause that helps provide new direction and hope for those with disabilities, while becoming one community," says Pedro Payne, director of PossAbilities.

A big thanks to all those who organized, volunteered and fundraised for PossAbilities through the Power of Inclusion.





Redlands Bicycle Classic



The anticipation building up to the Redlands Bicycle Classic each year never disappoints. This year was the 30th anniversary of the event and seventh year since PossAbilities has started the para-cycling component of the race. All para-cycling categories (plus recumbent) were offered up to participants during four days of racing in Big Bear, Beaumont and Redlands. With more than 55 people from three different countries, the competition was fierce. This year our two biggest teams to participate were Team Paralyzed Veterans with 25 and Team Semper Fi with 12. Team PossAbilities had two new members who raced for the their first time—Paul Brown and Jason Mlot. Fantastic job from both athletes.

Team Semper Fi



Overall omnium winners:

MALE

H1-Will Groulx

H2-David Randall H3-Gerard Ah-Fook

H4-Alfredo Delossantos

T1/2-Steven Peace

C4/5-Estevan Rojas

Recumbent-Adam Allen

FEMALE

H3-Thea Rosa

C4/5-Shawn Morelli

T1/2-Beth Hope





he 12th Annual PossAbilities Triathlon, 5K Run/ Walk/Roll, & Kids Triathlon came to Loma Linda on April 27th for the 12th year. This year's race boasted more than 900 participants who competed in the adult triathlon or 5K and the kids triathlon. The sprint triathlon brought those with all abilities together on one start line. Whether a rider was experienced or a beginner, this event provided something for everyone in the family. The adult triathlon consisted of a 3.1-mile run, 11-mile bike and 150yard swim. The kids race is a 1/4-mile run, 1/4-mile bike and 25-yard swim. A fully adaptive climbing wall was provided by No Limits and owner Mark Wellman. Canadian entertainers Judy & David provided post event entertainment for the children, teaching kids how to stay active and be healthy.









A special thank-you to San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for its continued support of PossAbilities and their donation of \$200,000.

OVERALL WINNERS		
Tri Female		
1st	Taylor Spivey	
2nd	Laura Wassner	
3rd	Charisa Wernick	
Tri Male		
1st	William Jones	
2nd	Connor Sousa	
3rd	Kyle Hughes	
5K Female		
1st	Camillia Brieno	
2nd	Elva Ovando	
3rd	Crystal Clark	
5K Male		
1st	Scott Oseguero	
2nd	Erubey Camacho	
3rd	Dalton Muth	

CHALLENGED ATHLETES (1st-place winners)

Male		
Tri 1	Steve Hoffman	
Tri 2	Andre Barbieri	
Tri 3	Bryon Solberg	
Tri 4	Tony Troccoli	
Tri 5	Steve Mosqueda	
Female		
Tri 1	Alicia Garcia	
Tri 2	Lucia Saitta	
Tri other	Brittany Mcadam	

TOP FUNDRAISERS		
Challenged	Bob Schumacher representing	
athletes	Sydney and Carson Schumacher	
Community	Arvin Tanag and	
members	Cotie Williams	



TO READ OUR ATHLETE BLOGS GO TO WWW.TEAMPOSSABILITIES.ORG/ROAD-TO-RIO-ATHLETES-BLOG.

A NOTE FROM DEL DUNSTON

2013 was a successful but busy year. I finished up my training and was able to meet some personal goals. One goal was to average 15 miles per hour for the time trial course at Nationals, which was a lower but realistic speed due to the hilly course and severe heat that day. My other goal for the road race at Nationals was to make each lap faster than the last. Both goals were a success. I finished second in my class in the nation, after competing in four domestic races.

I started the year off strong with four days of racing at the Redlands Bicycle Classic, where I took second place in the overall H.1 class. My plans for this year are to race in the Clock Tower Classic in Rome, Ga., in late April. In May, I will be racing in the National Criterium Championships in Chattanooga, Tenn., and I will finish the season at Nationals in Madison, Wis.

As always, I would like to thank my sponsor, PossAbilities, for this unique opportunity to pursue my Olympic dream.

Del Dunston

A NOTE FROM GREG CROUSE

Hello PossAbilities Teammates,

The beginning of this new year of training and competition has been not only fun, but exciting and challenging, as well. I am building on last year's accomplishments and forcing myself to push my training beyond the plateaus of last season. Even though I finished last year on Team USA, I want to have a better showing at the Para Canoe World Championships. I can do this by retaining my current #1 National Ranking at the USA Canoe Kayak-Team USA Time Trials in Lake Placid, New York this year.

Aside from my regular training and exercise, I have entered all the California Winter series of one-man racing, stretching from Santa Barbara to Redondo Beach, Oceanside, Newport Beach, Dana Point, Malibu and San Diego. The Winter Series ended in San Diego at the Olympic Training Center, where the "Silver Blade Regatta" was held, with challengers coming from across the state. I finished the day with a Bronze medal in the Open Men's division and a Gold medal in the Adaptive Men's division.

I'm looking ahead to future challenges. After I secure my spot on Team USA, I will represent the United States in Moscow at the

A NOTE FROM ANDRE BARBIERI

Greetings fellow PossAbilities supporters,

I did some good events last year, and I did most of them to get experience.

2014 is a different beast. Most of the events are focused on accumulating points to qualify nationally (in Brazil) for Rio2016 and get ranked internationally with ITU (International Triathlon Union). I've been getting better every day; it really makes a difference training with a coach, especially with a specific goal in mind!

In February I spent time in Hawaii, filming a documentary for my wet suit sponsor, Mormaii. It will air on national TV in Brazil only, unfortunately. It was a blast, with really good training and surfing! I also did a race in Kona, on the Big Island.

In April I flew to Brazil for my first race down there, on the National Paratriathlon Circuit. Of course, I still have a lot to improve. But I did my best time ever and it was good enough to make the cut for the National Paratriathlon Team! Next big race is the PanAmerican Paratriathlon Cup in Dallas, Texas, on June 1. Before that, I have the 13th Annual PossAbilities Triathlon. After Texas, my schedule includes: Chicago in June; Edmonton, Canada, in August; and then Brazil again in October.

I'm focused and determined. At this point, every minute and every second starts to count. It could mean the difference between being at that start line in 2016 or not.

Farewell and thank you for your continued support!

Andre

Para Canoe World Championships, followed by the Para Canoe World Sprint Championships in Rio de Janeiro. These are lofty goals and I have set the bar high for myself to reach and complete these challenges.

What a blessing it has been to be a part of the "Road to Rio" program and PossAbilities. They have made all this possible, and provided me the opportunity to attend these races and secure coaches to help me reach the pinnacle of my training. I provide the willpower and PossAbilities provides the means to succeed.

Gree



MEET OUR MEMBER: Justin Imhof



WOULD YOU LIKE TO TELL YOUR STORY?

Email your biography and high-resolution photo to cowilliams@llu.edu.

WHILE GROWING UP JUSTIN IMHOF FOUND AN INTEREST AND PASSION FOR RIDING MOTORCYCLES.

He started at the young age of 4 with his first PW 50 motorcycle. His first race was at the age of 11. He wanted to be the best he could be at everything. Competing was in his blood. Although he had a love for soccer, he found it hard to be on a team, especially when he had to rely on others. Riding motorcycles gave him a sense of "independence when you win knowing that you are the only one responsible for the win."

Justin started racing in the summer of 2008 and ended up winning the 0–200 championship in his rookie year! He then was recognized by KTM, one of the top five motorcycle companies. As a result, he followed up his championship in the 0–200 class with a championship in the 250 class.

2010 was a big year of wins for Justin. He ended up winning three overall championships that year, one of which was beating the JCR Honda team as an iron man! The race took place at night and took about five to six hours of constant racing.

Justin came into the finish line dead tired with the win. Not only did he win, but he won the race by a 10-minute lead. The win led to Justin joining the JCR Honda team the following year.

Later that year he rode for JCR Honda in the world famous Baja 1000, on November 18, 2010. That day would change his life forever. Justin says, "It was the day I was reborn." While racing, he was involved in a horrific crash. He went into a coma for three weeks and sustained a traumatic brain injury, sheering the nerves in his neck, breaking several ribs and a collar bone and a shattering scapula.

Justin made a miraculous recovery and continues to undergo therapy. These days Justin attends college and loves water sports and watching motocross. He is very competitive, so he's always looking for the next new challenge.

The Inland Empire Disabilities Collaborative Disability Resources EXPO

Save the date! Coming on September 13, 2014.



Support Groups

AMPUTEE CONNECTION

For program information or to request a visit from one of our volunteers, call Bill Nessel at 909-423-0562. www.theamputeeconnection.org

REDLANDS SUPPORT GROUP

Third Sunday of the month, 2 to 4 p.m. Stan & Ellen Weisser Education Pavilion Redlands Community Hospital 350 Terracina Blvd. Redlands, CA 92373

CORONA/RIVERSIDE SUPPORT GROUP

Third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon Corona Regional Medical Center **Conference Building** 800 South Main St. Corona, CA 92882 Call Luis at 213-700-0970 or Bert at 951-735-7963.

CLINIC FOR PATIENTS WITH AMPUTATIONS

Loma Linda University Medical Center East Campus **Orthotics and Prosthetics Department** Ambulatory Services Building—North **Entrance** 11406 Loma Linda Drive, Room 407 Loma Linda, CA 92354 An appointment is required. Please call 909-558-6272.

LARYNGECTOMEE SUPPORT GROUP

Third Sunday of the month, 1 to 2 p.m. PossAbilities Office 25455 Barton Road, Suite 109A Loma Linda, CA 92354 For more information, call Department of Speech Pathology at 909-558-4000, ext. 43909.

AUTISM PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP



BRAINSTORMING 4 US

Brain injury support group for all ages. Sterling Inn Commons, 17738 Francesca Road Victorville, CA 92395 For more information, call Lisa Moss at 760-946-2481, email info@brainstorming4us.com or visit www.brainstorming4us.com.

THE LIMB CONNECTION (TLC)

Family support group for children with limb loss. For more information, please contact Bill Nessel at 909-423-0562 or Joan Le at TLCfamilies@gmail.com.

HITSS: HEAD INJURY AND TRAUMA SPINAL **SUPPORT GROUP**

Adult and Pediatrics Group Meeting

Fourth Monday of the month, 6 to 7:30 p.m. **Ambulatory Services Building** Conference Room 129A (the old library) 11406 Loma Linda Drive Loma Linda, CA 92354 Enter the south driveway and go to the end of the building. Survivors or family members welcome. Call 800-986-HITSS (800-986-4487), ext. 42401.

MENDED HEARTS: CHAPTER 34

A support group for all heart patients and their families. Last Friday of the month, 11 a.m. Loma Linda University Medical Center Cafeteria, Room A 11234 Anderson St. Loma Linda, CA 92354 For more information, call 909-558-8180.

MOMS NIGHT OUT

Support group for moms of children with special needs to have social time with other moms going through similar challenges. For more information, call Tina Schumacher at 909-558-6384.

SICKLE CELL **EDUCATION SERIES**

Second Thursday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. PossAbilities Office Professional Plaza—Building A 25455 Loma Linda Drive, Suite 109A Loma Linda, CA 92354 Adult group meeting. Adults only. Dinner will be provided. For information, call 877-LLUMC-4U (877-558-6248).

For a complimentary Medicare health plan and enrollment consultation, call Sarah Welsh at 909-520-8482.



Resource Guide

AMPUTEE COALITION (AC)

888-267-5669 or TTY 865-525-4512 www.amputee-coalition.org

ARTHRITIS

ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION

800-283-7800 www.arthritis.org

JUVENILE ARTHRITIS ALLIANCE (JA ALLIANCE)

800-283-7800 www.arthritis.org/ja-alliance-main.php

BLINDNESS

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE BLIND

800-232-5463

Addresses critical issues facing people with visual disabilities, including employment, independent living, literacy and technology www.afb.org

BLINDNESS SUPPORT SERVICES

951-341-9244

Information, referrals, housing support, counseling, Braille tape transcription, speakers bureau, transportation assistance and prevocational training

BRAILLE INSTITUTE

714-821-5000 www.brailleinstitute.org

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

410-659-9314

Resources include publications, aids and appliances, conventions, employment and training.

www.nfb.org

BRAIN INJURY

BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, NATIONAL BRAIN INJURY INFORMATION CENTER

800-444-6443

Creating a better future through brain injury prevention, research, education and advocacy www.biausa.org

CEREBRAL PALSY

UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY

800-USA-5UCP (800-872-5827) national@ucp.org www.ucp.org

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY/SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

800-FIGHT-MS (800-344-4867)

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION

800-572-1717 www.mda.org

SPINAL CORD INJURY (SCI)

CALIFORNIA PARALYZED VETERANS ASSOCIATION

562-826-5713 or **800-497-0565** Provides resources for veterans

STROKE

STROKE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

310-575-1699

Free education and tools for patients and caregivers

www.strokesocal.org

AMERICAN BRAIN TUMOR ASSOCIATION

800-886-2282 www.abta.org





Learn more about featured PossAbilities members and becoming a member or volunteer. Just snap a photo of this icon with your smartphone.



Nonprofit Org U.S. Postage **PAID** Loma Linda University Medical Center



PossAbilities & You is published by Loma Linda University Medical Center East Campus to provide general health information. It is not intended to provide personal medical advice, which should be obtained directly from a physician.

© 2014. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.



Printed on Recyclable Paper

Samantha Orcasitas Editor

Cotie Williams

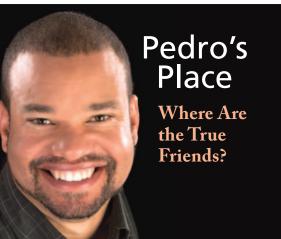
Loma Linda University

MEDICAL CENTER

Loma Linda, CA 92354-2804

11234 Anderson St.

6056M



Making time for those we love can be the single most important act of love we can give. At times we may think that the best way to let someone know we love them is to express it in words or to give him or her a gift or money. While those expressions of love are valuable and oftentimes desired, they may not always convey the depth of your love to the other person. I believe that sometimes the best way to say "I love you" is simply to spend time with the person you love. You do not have to be engaged in an exciting activity or have a predetermined list of things to do. Sometimes the best together times are when you don't have any particular itinerary or agenda but simply are together. When you give of your time to others, you are telling them that they are important enough for you to dedicate a portion of your busy life to just them and no one else! That's a beautiful way to make anyone feel special and appreciated. So, next time you are having trouble deciding on a special gift for someone you love, consider the gift of time together time!



If you wish to be removed from the mailing list for this publication, call 909-558-6664 or email cowilliams@llu.edu.