

A Formal Approach for Self-Advocates – Adaptive Boating on Lake Parker, FL

SARTAC Fellow: Eddie Hall

Host and organization name: Capt. Thomas Griffin, Bird Dog

Boats of Florida, Tampa, FL

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Project Summary:

Create a community service organization that provides adaptive recreation for people with disabilities.

Learn how a person with a disability can have a company and keep their disability benefits.

Provide community events for outdoor recreation for people with all kinds of disabilities.

Projects Goals:

Make a program with the City of Lakeland, FL

Set up, plan, and make sure people with disabilities feel and are safe with Bird Dog Boats

Hold four events that serve people with disabilities who have felt left out of doing outdoor recreation.

Forward:

Expedite Life LLC was conceptualized by Eddie Hall in 2021 when he recognized the need for organized outdoor adaptive recreation in Central Florida for people with disabilities and mobility impairments. Mr. Hall was influenced by SportsAbility Alliance in Tallahassee, FL which organized over thirty outdoor adaptive programs such as adaptive kayaking, adaptive equestrian, adaptive tennis, and many more. Mr. Hall brought two very strong personal aspects to the business concept.

- 1. His love for the outdoors was driven by his life experiences on the waters of Florida and in the parks of Florida, where he enjoyed fishing, wildlife, and nature.
- 2. His keen understanding of how outdoor adaptive recreation has a very positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities and or mobility impairments.

The mission statement for Expedite Life LLC: the purpose of Expedite Life LLC is to promote outdoor adaptive recreation in Central Florida and establish recreation programs by accomplishing the following:

 Identify adaptive recreation vendors and adaptive recreation equipment suppliers and bring them to Central Florida for programming.

- Raised funding for nonprofit paperwork. Sent in to the IRS in October and answered questions from IRS. Revicied nonprofit letter March 2023
- 3. Establish logistics and protocols for outdoor adaptive recreation programs and bring forward programming in Central Florida.

Big Activities and Accomplishments

- Expedite Life LLC was set up as a community service company
- 2. A partnership was formed with the City of Lakeland to hold events
- 3. A partnership was formed with Bird Dog Boats to hold events
- 4. Successfully held four events on Lake Parker
- 5. The City of Lakeland plans to give more money for our events
- 6. Made plans to continue the program in 2023





Resource:

Expedite Life

Website: Expedite Life