

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

# MAINE-NILES ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL RECREATION



An extension of: Des Plaines Park District  
Golf-Maine Park District | Morton Grove Park District  
Niles Park District | Park Ridge Park District  
Skokie Park District | Village of Lincolnwood Parks  
and Recreation

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



## OUR MISSION

**The Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation provides individuals with disabilities access to meaningful and life-enriching recreation and leisure opportunities.**



2022 was an extra special year for M-NASR, as we celebrated our 50th anniversary. I'd like to thank everyone who participated, volunteered, worked, donated or contributed in any way. We are fortunate to have so many people invested in M-NASR's success. We even have two current participants who have been with M-NASR since the very beginning in 1972. It is gratifying to see how special recreation has been such an important part of their lives for five decades.

We are also fortunate to have had seven incredibly supportive member park districts with us for all 50 years as well: Des Plaines Park District, Golf-Maine Park District, Morton Grove Park District, Niles Park District, Park Ridge Park District, Skokie Park District and the Village of Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation Department.

On behalf of the M-NASR Board of Directors and staff, thank you for your support in 2022, the highlights of which are detailed in the pages ahead. We look forward to continuing to serve our participants and our member communities for the next 50 years and beyond.

*Trisha D. Breitlow*

**Trisha D. Breitlow, CTRS, CPRP**  
Executive Director

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# 2022 M-NASR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Jekot, *President*

Michelle Tuft, *Vice President*

Jeff Wait, *Treasurer*

Tom Elenz

Karen Hawk

Gayle Mountcastle

Joe Weber

Golf-Maine Park District

Skokie Park District

Morton Grove Park District

Niles Park District

Village of Lincolnwood Parks and Recreation

Park Ridge Park District

Des Plaines Park District

## M-NASR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Trisha Breitlow, CTRS, CPRP *Executive Director*

Audra Ebling *Communications & Marketing Manager*

Mary Gates *Administrative Office Assistant/Registrar*

Vera Kramer *Fundraising & Development Manager*

Lara Kuechel *Administrative Office Assistant*

Keli Stonitsch *Human Resources Specialist*

Barb Woods *Accounting Manager*

## M-NASR RECREATION STAFF

Lindsey Anderson, CTRS *Support Staff Coordinator*

Lisa Barrera, CTRS *Superintendent of Recreation*

Kelly Brunning, CPRP *Senior Operations Manager*

Nicole Derrig, CTRS, CPRP *Program Manager*

Taylor Gonio, CTRS *Recreation Specialist*

Rob Hentschel *Recreation Specialist*

Brendan Meyers *Recreation Specialist*

Jessie Silva, CTRS *Inclusion Manager*

Nicole Witt *Inclusion Coordinator*





# CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SPECIAL RECREATION PROGRAMMING

While M-NASR's 50th anniversary date was in December, we felt that a milestone of this magnitude deserved to be celebrated all year long. From offering 50% off virtual programs to centering the theme of our annual End-of-Summer party around it, we honored our half century of special recreation in ways both big and small.

Our annual Recognition Night, the first one held in person since 2019, was extra inspiring as we honored two participants who have been with M-NASR for our entire 50 years of existence. M-NASR also received a proclamation from the Illinois State Senate.

We used weekly social media posts to highlight programming from all five decades of M-NASR history. It helped us to see that while special recreation has changed in some ways, our mission of providing meaningful recreation opportunities for children, teens and adults with disabilities remains not only the same but more important than ever.

**"AS B GREW UP,  
THIS WAS A  
PARTNERSHIP  
BETWEEN M-NASR  
AND US AS  
PARENTS. AND  
YOU BROUGHT  
HAPPINESS AND  
JOY TO MAKING  
FRIENDS AND BEING  
INCLUDED."  
-DEBBIE K, PARENT**







## PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

- 385 programs offered, compared to 351 in 2021
- Aktion Club service club for adults with disabilities, established in partnership with Park Ridge Kiwanis, became active
- New After School Strikes bowling program for Molloy School was launched
- New partnership with Out Our Front Door to provide adaptive cycling and inclusive camping experiences resulted in two successful programs
- Sensory Strides, one-on-one sessions held in our Sensory Room, expanded
- Summer day camp increased to 65 campers in six camps
- M-NASR Wildcat athletes competed in several Special Olympics events and attended Summer Games in Normal, Illinois
- M-NASR Wildcat bocchia athletes traveled to Nationals in Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- M-NASR Tee Time Golf program was featured in Chicago District Golfer magazine
- Leisure Education expanded into five classrooms, serving 59 students
- M-NASR participated in Niles Township's 2022 Coming Together season, "Sharing Experiences of Disability"



# INCLUSION SERVICES

Inclusion provides opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate alongside their non-disabled peers in recreation programs. M-NASR works cooperatively with our member park districts to provide training and education to staff, as well as resources and reasonable accommodations to include individuals with disabilities registered for recreational programs they offer. In 2022, M-NASR's inclusion team served 199 participants, compared to 128 in 2021.

M-NASR is committed to providing successful inclusive experiences and continues to work collaboratively with parents, the inclusion staff and park district program staff.



**"H WAS SO NERVOUS BEFORE SOCCER STARTED, BUT R MADE IT SO ENJOYABLE FOR HER. SHE WAS ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN HER CLASS WITHOUT BEING THE DIFFERENT ONE."  
-HOLLIE C, PARENT**



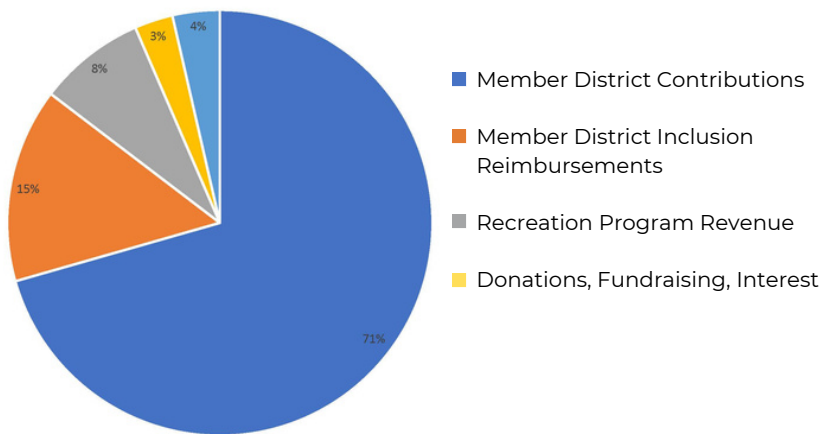
## PART-TIME STAFF

M-NASR was faced with the same staffing challenges as other organizations and municipalities in recruiting part-time staff. We were fortunate to have a group of 44 staff (compared to 25 in 2021) dedicated enough to step into programs and roles when and where they were needed.

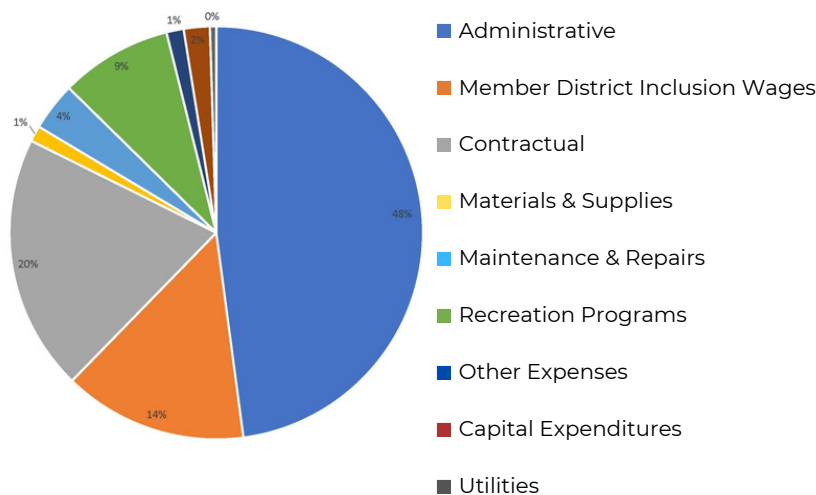
As part of our 50th anniversary, we premiered a new summer party for part-time staff to recognize their efforts on behalf of our participants. We look forward to continuing that tradition in the summers to come.

# 2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## 2022 Revenue



## 2022 Expenses



Revenue: \$2,125,335  
Expenses: \$2,092,283





# M-NASR FUNDRAISING IN 2022



## Triviapalooza

Held at Lincolnwood Community Center, this fun night of trivia brought together a group who raised \$2,605 for M-NASR.

## Holiday Raffle

Offering a grand prize of a \$1,000 Visa gift card, our annual holiday raffle raised \$4,270. Thank you to our sponsor, Framework IT, and to everyone who sold and purchased tickets.



## Annual Appeal/GivingTuesday

Thanks to support from The Coleman Foundation’s matching grants program and the generosity of our friends and families, M-NASR raised \$19,775 during the annual appeal at the end of the year.



## CALENDAR OF NOTABLE EVENTS

### Fundraising Events

|                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Liponi Foundation Dinner Dance & Silent Auction..... | March     |
| Liponi Foundation Mini-Golf Fundraiser.....          | August    |
| M-NASR Triviapalooza Fundraiser.....                 | September |
| M-NASR \$1,000 Raffle.....                           | Nov/Dec   |
| M-NASR Annual Appeal/Giving Tuesday.....             | December  |

### Annual Social Events Sponsored by the Liponi Foundation

|                                       |         |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| M-NASR End-of-Summer Celebration..... | August  |
| M-NASR Halloween Dance.....           | October |

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# THANK YOU M-NASR CONTRIBUTORS

## Supporting Individuals

Syed Ali  
Blaise & Kathryn Arena  
Don & Sue Bergsrud  
Robert Berube  
Gina Blease  
Andrew Bonk  
Evelyn Boos  
Barbara Bronder  
Jackie Brunn  
Michael Budzik  
Joseph Calabrese  
Sarah Chroman  
Darlene Codd  
Josephine DeBartolo  
Laura Dmytrenko  
David Dolan  
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Dave & Mary Gates  
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Beverly Simon  
Ron Stein  
Mayor Brad Stephens  
Denise Streff  
Cheryl Sychowski  
Lisa Turner  
Theresa Weindorfer  
Ellen West  
Tammy Whitmore  
Sybil Wijas  
Brian Wismer  
Jessica Witek  
John Zumph

## In Memory Of

William Bernard  
Richard Howell  
Dan Murphy  
Evelyn Robin  
Cory Simon  
John Vargo  
Rose Ann Vargo

## In Honor Of

2022 Boccia Natl Tournament  
Karen Gall  
Greg Ginder  
Aaron Glickson's Birthday  
Orrin Joffee  
Edwin Kramer  
Stella LiPomi  
M-NASR 50th Anniversary  
M-NASR Boccia Program  
M-NASR Staff  
Ray Saindon  
Mikey Whitmore

## Supporting Organizations

Abbvie  
Advocate Lutheran General Hospital  
Amazon Smile  
City of Des Plaines  
The Coleman Foundation  
Framework IT  
Horton Chiropractic  
Jet City Coalition  
Kiwanis Club of Des Plaines  
Kiwanis of Park Ridge  
Knights of Columbus-Niles  
Maine Township  
Minuteman Press-Morton Grove  
Morton Grove Moose Lodge #376  
Muslim Community Center Inc.  
Niles Township Government  
Optimist Club of Des Plaines  
Out Our Front Door  
Park Ridge Community Fund  
Park Ridge Kiwanis  
Partnership Financial Credit Union  
Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Foundation  
Rivers Gives Foundation  
Rotary Club of Skokie Valley  
United Way

## In-Kind Donors

Binny's Beverage Depot  
Joe & Mary Calabrese  
Chicago District Golf Association/  
Sunshine Through Golf  
Des Plaines Park District  
Dream Golf  
GolfTEC, Des Plaines  
Lynfred Winery  
Lou Malnati's  
Andrew Moore  
Psistaria Greek Taverna  
Tito's Vodka  
Woodbury Family

*Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our contributor lists. We apologize if we inadvertently omitted any donors.*

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# LIPONI FOUNDATION FOR SPECIAL RECREATION

Our annual Dinner Dance and Silent Auction was not held in 2022 but the fundraising campaign held in its place in March raised \$26,969. We are grateful to all who contributed. Our annual Mini-Golf Fundraiser, held in August at Skokie Sports Park, raised \$8,446. Thank you to all who made this such a successful event.



## Supporting Individuals

Pat Angelaccio  
Mr & Mrs Blaise Arena  
Judy Bard  
Lisa Barrera  
Mr & Mrs Guy Battista  
Steven Bergsrud  
Mr & Mrs Paul Betts  
Gina Blease  
Ms Evelyn Boos  
Mr & Mrs John Bondi  
Trisha Breitlow  
Madelynn Marcur Brousil  
Ms Kelly Brunning  
Mr Michael Budzik  
Mary Ann Burke  
Joe Calabrese  
James Callero  
Mr & Mrs Michael Cummings  
Joanne Cwynar  
Steve Demet  
Kathleen Denning  
Debbie Dexter  
The Dmytrenko Family  
David Dolan  
Tom Elenz

Lisa Elson  
Mary Ann Fabbri  
Anthony Fidanza  
Mr & Mrs Kenneth Frystak  
Mr & Mrs Michael Garber  
Trustee Julie & Vince Genualdi  
Mr & Mrs Jim Grady  
Patrick Grant  
David Gurdak  
Mr & Mrs Steve Gudauskas  
Mr & Mrs Barry Haas  
Mr & Mrs John Hecker  
Robert Heitsch  
James Hynes  
Arlene Janusz  
Joanne Johnson  
Mr & Mrs Robert Johnson  
Paula Joseph  
Krystyna Kaczmarek  
Mr & Mrs Bob Kadlec  
Mr & Mrs Gerald Kellen  
Barry Koller  
Trustee Steve & Laura Koller  
Hildegard Kozil  
The Kubica Family  
Mr & Mrs Joe Kuechel

Noah LaDuke  
Stephanie Lane  
Mr & Mrs Theodore Lenart  
Mr & Mrs Edward Lesniak  
Donna Lewis  
Lisa LoVallo  
Maryanne Lucarz  
Trustee Deborah & Mark Manno  
John Marion  
Gary Martz  
Mr & Mrs Ray McIntosh  
Trustee Fred & Jackie Minelli  
Trustee Mario & Elizabeth Minelli  
Andrew Moore  
Ms Ramona Nitzschke  
Patty Paul  
Kevin Rauch  
Mr & Mrs Paul Rauch  
Trustee Toni & Dave Rich  
Elaine Rich  
Mr & Mrs Kevin Rosiensi  
Mr & Mrs Andy Roiniotis  
Ms Jeanette Ruby  
John Russell  
Sharon Sloan  
Karen Smith



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## Supporting Individuals

Trustee Dolores & Paul Stanton  
Trustee Ron & Cherie Stein  
Trustee Dean & Laura Strzelecki  
Mr & Mrs Mark Swiderski  
Mr & Mrs Brad Tokarz  
David Troiani  
Michelle Tuft  
Mr & Mrs Robert Vaessen  
Mr & Mrs Robert Kielian Walther  
Robert Wagner  
Barbara Watson  
Ellen West  
Mr & Mrs Keith White  
Mr & Mrs Lawrence Widmer  
Nancy Winans  
Virginia Wolfe  
Tori Woodbury  
Trustee Marlene & Steve Worthley  
Mr & Mrs Jerome Wroblewski  
Jan Yates  
Mr & Mrs Russ Zdeb

## Supporting Organizations

Accel Community Support Fund  
Black Urban Worldwide Ground Transportation  
Bringer Inn  
Brookfield Zoo  
Cheesecake Factory  
Chicago Wolves  
Clark Halladay Memorial Foundation  
Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurants  
Des Plaines Park District  
Edward Jones  
Gators Wing Shack  
Graziano's  
Iron Horse Tavern LLC  
IVO Cozzini Primedge, Inc.  
M-NASR  
Morton Grove Park District  
Niles Park District  
Optimist Club of Niles  
Park Ridge Park District  
Partnership Financial Credit Union  
Portillo's Inc.  
Skokie Park District  
Vera Bradley Store/Old Orchard  
Windy City Bulls  
Wines for Humanity  
Zanies Comedy Club  
Zia's Social  
Zoot Cuts



**The Liponi Foundation is dedicated to providing support to the Maine-Niles Association of Special Recreation in its efforts to provide recreational and leisure programs for individuals with disabilities.**





Maine-Niles Association  
of Special Recreation

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Morton Grove, Illinois 60053  
847-966-5522 | mnasr.org

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GROVE, IL  
PERMIT NO. 174

**“THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS MADE M-NASR WHAT IT WAS,  
IS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE IN THE FUTURE.”  
-RAMONA K, M-NASR PARTICIPANT FOR 50 YEARS**



## HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT M-NASR?



**Volunteer.** Help others, have fun and make a difference in the community.  
Email [lbarrera@mnasr.org](mailto:lbarrera@mnasr.org)



**Donate.** Make a financial donation at [mnasr.org](https://mnasr.org)



**Sponsor.** Become a sponsor. Contact [vkramer@mnasr.org](mailto:vkramer@mnasr.org)



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