

SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes 9575 Aero Drive Suite B San Diego, CA 92123

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Dear

SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes is hosting for our members the 15th annual "A Taste 4 SPORTS" gala fundraiser on Thursday, June 2nd from 6:00 - 9:00pm at the Balboa Park Club (2144 Pan American Road West, San Diego 92101) in beautiful Balboa Park for 350-400 guests. **We would be proud to be counted among the wonderful agencies that you so generously sponsor.**

SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes (S4EA) is a non-profit (Tax ID 20-8886536) inclusive sports program serving athletes with developmental disabilities ages 5 through adult in San Diego County. The purpose of SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes is to create enhanced opportunities for people with and without disabilities to interact and form lasting bonds of friendship through shared sports and recreational activities in their community. S4EA was founded 15 years ago by a group of coaches, parents, volunteers, and community members who found a need for a community based sports program for athletes with and without developmental disabilities in San Diego County. S4EA serves 1,400 athletes with developmental disabilities who have the opportunity to train and compete in 20+ different sports offered in 4 seasons throughout the year.

SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes is now at a crucial crossroads: the number of potential new athletes with developmental disabilities wanting to play sports will soon exceed our capacity.

Please consider helping us expand our services. SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes is a small non-profit with a budget of just over \$300,000.

One of the ways we have begun to meet our expansion needs is to diversify and expand our funding sources, in-kind donations, and people-power. At our annual "A Taste 4 SPORTS" gala fundraiser, SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes would like to recognize your contribution. The enclosed 'Sponsorship Opportunities' sheet outlines the various Sponsorship Levels (Platinum-\$10,000, Gold Medal-\$5,000, Silver Medal-\$1,000, Bronze Medal-\$500) and Sponsorship Benefits, including being listed in "A Taste 4 SPORTS" program, print advertising, invitation, event flyer, event signage, free tickets, and being listed on the S4EA website (www.s4ea.org) and newsletter. "A Taste 4 SPORTS" will feature food from some of San Diego's best local restaurants and caterers, appearances by notable local celebrities and sports figures, entertainment, a fabulous silent auction, and fun at the Balboa Park Club. The 2019 "A Taste 4 SPORTS", attended by over 300 guests, raised over \$50,000 to support sports programs for athletes with developmental disabilities in San Diego County. Because of the pandemic, we had a Virtual Taste in 2020 and a Drive-Thru Taste in 2021. We are so glad to be back in-person in 2022.

On behalf of the athletes and volunteers at SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes, I thank you for the opportunity to submit this request for funding to enhance the lives of our athletes with developmental disabilities through sports in San Diego County. If you have any questions or require further information, please contact S4EA Executive Director Walter Jackson at (858)565-7432 or visit the website <u>www.s4ea.org/taste4sports</u>. We look forward to partnering with you!

Best in SPORTS,

Walter a. Jackson

Walter Jackson, S4EA Executive Director