

Camp Friends For Life



Meet the Zadikems! Caleb (15) started participating with Eagle Mount at age 10 soon after his family moved to Manhattan, MT. Eagle Mount is where Caleb, who has Asperger's/high functioning Autism, soars! For the past five years, Caleb has been active in many camps and programs. Amongst his favorites are Adventure Days, skiing, ice skating and indoor rock climbing. However, Eagle Mount has quickly become a family affair. From volunteering and family activities to sibling events and family camps, the Zadikems found there was something for the whole family at Eagle Mount.

Caleb's mom Katrina has a background in special education and loves horses. As Caleb developed his own activities with Eagle Mount, Katrina started volunteering and has spent countless hours in the horse barn and volunteering in the Barnard Pool. Katrina's background and passion for kids with special needs drives her continued volunteerism not just alongside Caleb, but working with other participants as well. Caleb's sister Malina also loves horses and has been an active volunteer in our horsemanship program. Through her experience in the barn, Malina learned how to care for her own horses the family now has on their property. With Caleb, Malina started participating in sibling activities and even attended an overnight sibling camp.

And Caleb's father Travis has his own memories with Eagle Mount too! Travis has spent much of his time enjoying adventures alongside Caleb. One highlight includes a summer rafting trip and the tradition to 'SuperMan' on the front of a raft - leaning out over the water to build confidence and have

fun. Travis remembers a big laugh one year when he was accidentally kicked into the water, toppling Caleb in with him.

For the Zadikem's, Eagle Mount has been a great place for fun and activity, volunteering and giving back. The best outcome, however, has been the many friendships made by all. Early in life, Caleb struggled to develop friendships, finding it difficult to communicate and connect. At Eagle Mount, Caleb has found some wonderful friends that extend far beyond our campus. His parents would say that because of Eagle Mount, Caleb's confidence has blossomed. He now finds it both easy and fun to say hello to someone in the community.

Five years ago, the Zadikem and three other families attended a family camp together in Paradise Valley. Family Camps are a relatively new addition to our annual activities, but in just a few short years, we've been witness to one of the most beautiful outcomes for participating families. The outcome? Long-lasting friendships- the kind that take on a life of their own long after camp.

One day during this particular camp, the entire four family group went rafting, ending up at the hot springs after a long day on the river. Katrina remembers fondly the quiet joy of watching friendships between the children grow before their eyes. Katrina also remembers that "a whole weekend sets up so much deeper connections. The children found their own rhythms and made up their own games and had freedom and autonomy while feeling safe and protected."

After family camp, relationships live on! Looking back years later, those families who met at family camp have spent countless evenings together. Even during this past year's pandemic, Caleb created a special way for his Eagle Mount friends to keep in touch safely on the computer. From backyard picnicking to children's play time at one another's homes to newfound online activities, Eagle Mount has provided the opportunity for families to grow in community with one another.

JOIN THE SOCIAL PARTY!

sign up for our weekly enewsletter at eaglemount.org
#eaglemountbozeman #HEREWECAN



Keep in the loop as we go on some adventures.
But be careful - the fun we're having is contagious!



SAVE THE DATE



GATHER

Each year, Eagle Mount hosts three of Bozeman's most beloved events – celebrating milestones this year are the 10th Annual Digger Days, and 25th Annual Western Rendezvous. As we look ahead with anticipation for a season where gathering is again safely possible, we're excited to announce the dates for Eagle Mount's premier events. Stay tuned to eaglemount.org/events for details as they evolve and to reserve your tickets when they become available!

Digger Days | August 28, 2021 – 9am-3pm
Western Rendezvous | September 24, 2021 – 5-10pm
Crystal Ball | November 6, 2021 – 6pm-Midnight

Sponsorship opportunities are available for all events. Contact Stephanie Uter at events@eaglemount.org for more info.



CAMP

Warm weather seasons are just around the corner and we couldn't be more excited about all the summer holds. Adventure Days are back with three sessions in June, July and August – including an awesome water week. In-person and virtual Big Sky Kids camps, family camps, mom's and dad's retreats, EMBLEM camp for veterans, and more are all on the books!

Visit eaglemount.org/camps for the most up-to-date schedule and registration information.



SWIM

Eagle Mount's Tim and Mary Barnard Aquatics Center welcomes swimmers six days a week. Eagle Swim offers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level swimmers for lessons individuals and groups of all ages. Adult and Young at Heart classes welcome adults affected with cancer at any stage, and people over 50 looking for supportive, restorative classes including fast-paced and fun water aerobics and slower paced water exercise.

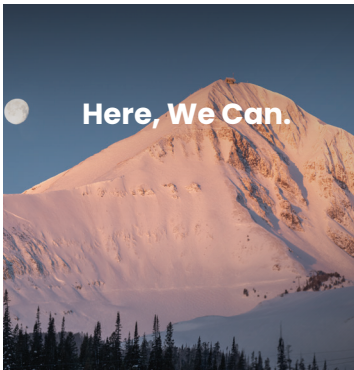
For more information and to register, contact aquatics@eaglemount.org or visit eaglemount.org/aquatics.



RIDE

Adaptive Horsemanship programming helps develop confidence, coordination, patience, self-esteem, and practical life skills through guided, personalized interaction with our full-sized and miniature horses. Programming for individuals and groups will be offered indoors and outdoors during June, July and August at our Cyndi Fonda Riding Center.

For more information and to register, contact horsemanship@eaglemount.org or visit eaglemount.org/program/adaptive-horsemanship.



HERE, WE CAN

Horticulture, Theater, Cycling, Fishing, and many more activities are all planned in the coming months. Mark your calendar for a special new monthly event, Eagle Mount Day, where we'll welcome participants and their families for all that our campus has to offer: a visit from the mini horse, swimming, time in the program garden, bonfires, and lots of fun on Everybody's Playground and Eagle Mountain.

Eagle Mount Days: June 7, July 12, August 16

Visit eaglemount.org for updates to spring, summer, and fall programming, camps, and events.
Participant Application: eaglemount.org/participate
Volunteer Application: eaglemount.org/volunteer



Letter from Our Leadership

Dear Eagle Mount Family,

There aren't a lot of places like big sky country. Here, we can ski. Here, we can ride. Here, we can soar. As 2021 unfolds, we're recognizing that Here, We Can.

Throughout 2020 Eagle Mount continued to take flight straight into the challenges the year threw at us all. And this year we know that because of you, We Can!

Here, we can ski because we know skiing offers opportunities for our participants to develop strength and self-esteem. Here, we can ride because we know that horsemanship offers opportunities for our participants to develop coordination and practical life skills. And here, we can soar because we know that Eagle Mount is where friendships are born and independence is gained. Thank you for your care and continued support as we continue to deliver the adventures that make people soar!

With sincere gratitude,

Kevin Sylvester
Executive Director

Casey Ferguson
Board President

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: Dan McQueary



Dan McQueary is one of Eagle Mount's prized volunteers, but his service isn't just about giving back. When asked, Dan will share adamantly that he gets far more from Eagle Mount than he gives, and his generosity runs deep.

Dan spent 22 years in the Marine Corps before retirement. After the Marine Corps, Dan and his wife Joyce moved to Spokane where Dan spent 20 years in a school district as the director of support services. In this role, Dan honed his skills in the nuances and logistics of property management and equipment maintenance. Dan began volunteering with Eagle Mount's adaptive horsemanship program about ten years ago at the urging of his friend and fellow Meals on Wheels volunteer, Bob Harrison. Bob knew Dan grew up in a cattle ranching family and thought he'd be a great addition to the horsemanship volunteer crew. It also helped that Bob was the late husband of Maggee Harrison, longtime Eagle Mount adaptive horsemanship program director, so there was extra

incentive to get Dan involved! Today, Dan typically volunteers three days a week in the barn and across Eagle Mount's equine pastures. Dan also sits on the Eagle Mount facilities committee which plans the capital maintenance of Eagle Mount's campus and facilities. And drawing upon his long military service, Dan still visits military organizations across our community recruiting participants for our EMBLEM camps.

Looking back on his decade of volunteering at Eagle Mount, Dan is most proud of the systems and strategies he's helped build and carry out on Eagle Mount's campus. His accomplishments include designing and implementing a schedule for regular grounds, mowing, and equipment maintenance that is still used today. Dan has recruited fellow volunteers to help with projects as they've arisen over the years and regularly saves the day when big snow drifts block the hay barn on Eagle Mount's campus. On a warm spring day, you can catch Dan grading the arenas, mowing, and weed spraying around the equine pastures using custom equipment he has fabricated on site. Dan was instrumental in the installation of self-waterers that make water for our horses available no matter the weather, saving lots of staff time. In addition, he helped during the installation of the greenhouse, moved sheds, and has refurbished a number of buildings, gates, and pieces of equipment. All told, the time, expertise, dedication, and pure helpfulness Dan has given Eagle Mount over the years is invaluable.

Dan, an avid fly fisherman, lives in Bozeman with his wife Joyce. They enjoy spending time with their son, Chris McQueary and his wife Lara, granddaughter, Margaret, age 9, and grandson, Remy age 4.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

Lehrkinds Coca Cola and the Lehrkind Family's contributions



Many Bozeman residents may be familiar with the Lehrkind name, from successful businesses to historical landmarks, their contributions to our community are many and span generations. The Lehrkind Family can trace their Bozeman roots all the way back to 1890.

Eagle Mount is lucky to call the Lehrkind Family longtime friends. Since 1984 Lehrkinds Coca Cola has been supporting Eagle Mount's mission. Not long after, in 1991, Carl Lehrkind III and his wife Sally, began making their mark on Eagle Mount by attending the Crystal Ball, where Sally volunteered as a committee member for years. In addition, Robert Lehrkind and wife Shelley have been Eagle Mount supporters since 1990. Since our founding, the name Lehrkind has been synonymous with Eagle Mount's mission.

Today, Carl Lehrkind IV is the president of Lehrkinds Coca Cola. To carry on the family legacy, Carl has been a volunteer on our Crystal Ball committee, a longtime event attended, and supporter of the organization. And just one more family tie, today Ellie Lehrkind, Carl IV's wife, serves on the Crystal Ball committee and was instrumental in our online event last fall.



You may have seen our most recent partnership with the Lehrkinds last summer in refrigerator cases all over town. In the way that good friends often do, Carl IV came to Eagle Mount with a fun idea for a new way to partner and raise

funds to support Eagle Mount's inspiring mission. The brainstorm grew into last year's the Special Release Eagle Mount Hefeweizen in between Lehrkinds Coca Cola and Julius Lehrkind Brewing. The Special Release beer, released in June 2020, was a perfect crisp summer brew with a bright label and a whole lot of heart. Julius Lehrkind Brewing, owned by Rob Lehrkind, Bob's son, made the beer and sold it to Lehrkinds Coca Cola for distribution at cost. Lehrkinds Coca Cola, in turn, donated all proceeds from the sale of each can and keg to Eagle Mount. Throughout the summer, the Eagle Mount team was invited to their distribution center on North Rouse Avenue for a tour by Carl III, showing off the many unique features of the facility and handing over the first case of beer before it hit shelves.

Carl IV shares that Eagle Mount has always stood out among the many incredible nonprofits in our community because of the impact on children. Carl IV shared that his passion for supporting children, especially opening doors to experiences not all kids have the opportunity to enjoy, comes from his parents. Carl III and Sally were and are very invested in the inspirational mission of Eagle Mount, specifically the opportunities Eagle Mount offers for kids to be kids, no matter their challenges. "Eagle Mount's skiing program still amazes me." Carl IV recently shared. "As an avid skier, to see kids who would have no other way to access it, out enjoying the slopes, it gets me every time." Sally Lehrkind was a ski instructor at Bridger Bowl for 30 years, so the love for the sport, like so many traditions in their family, spans generations.

Looking ahead, Carl IV is proud of the long partnership Eagle Mount and the Lehrkind Family have enjoyed. He hopes that one day his son, Carl V, will take the reins of both the family business and the support of causes like Eagle Mount that continue to bring out the best in our community.

**Everybody Has
Challenges. We Have
Adventures.**
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BECAUSE OF YOU

Participant Spotlight



HADLEIGH McCOWN

Bridger Ski Program Participant

“Great first season on skis for Hadleigh!! Growing up and being able to have snowboarding as an outlet to recreate and appreciate the wilderness has helped me immensely all throughout my upbringing. Now being able to share this enrichment with my daughter in her life is such a blessing. Over the last few years I’ve been able to be a part of such a huge life changing organization for so many with Eagle Mount (a local adaptive ski program)! I started volunteering initially to gain knowledge and be more aware of disabilities; to be able to help those who normally wouldn’t have these kinds of empowering opportunities and be an integral part of the process for them. Now looking back at this organization, I realized in retrospect I’ve not only learned about others but more about myself and how much one can take for granted internally showing how much we all can do for one another. It all hit me pretty heartfelt pulling into the parking lot to drop Hadleigh off, for her to gain these experiences too! I got a little emotional and knew she would thrive and do well, so I dropped her off and turned away to let her be on her own and have the full experience for herself! I’m so proud and happy of her and for her, especially to be able to live and have her be raised in a community that’s so genuine and caring! Thank you Scott and all of the gang at Eagle Mount.”

- Koby Swenson, Hadleigh’s dad

Pictured: Scott is Hadleigh’s teaching team volunteer, and Duncan is the other volunteer working with Hadleigh (and new best friend). Also pictured, Whitley (Koby’s fiancé)



KERSTIN AND ROBERT CAUCKWELL

EMBLEM Campers

Kerstin and her husband Robert are both military veterans who have participated in two EMBLEM camps. EMBLEM was the only camp they could find where they could participate together and they were also accompanied by Robert’s counselor, an EMBLEM volunteer, adding so much to their experience.

“Eagle Mount is set up so that you can conquer your fears. They know your injuries and set you up to be safe, but they also push your limits. I’ve struggled with anxiety, and when it strikes during camp, I’ve always been supported when I needed it and cheered on when they knew I could conquer it. EMBLEM gave us bucket list moments like fly fishing, zip lining and golfing. And Eagle Mount has stayed with us - the first EMBLEM camp we attended brought us friends we still keep in touch with who raise us up still today when we need it - it was a lasting experience.”

- Kerstin Caukwell



HENRY ASSERSON

XC/Snowshoe

Henry’s first season of cross country skiing this winter brought so much joy! After a year of many cancelled activities, hybrid school actually offered an opportunity for Henry to participate in weekday activities with Eagle Mount. He hit it off day one with his volunteers, Sophia and Linda, who skied with him during every lesson. Early on, they started bringing a football to toss while out on the trails, and talked music and sports. Their relationship and the new bonds were a wonderful highlight. As parents, we appreciated seeing Henry’s excitement for a new activity, watching his confidence grow, and hearing about the adventures he had with Sophia and Linda. Watching Henry build strength and confidence after some initial nervousness was a gift. We look forward to family cross country skiing with all of Henry’s new skills!

- Betsy Asserson, Henry’s mom



Supporting Eagle Mount's Inspiring Mission

Donations make Eagle Mount adventures possible!

A gift to Eagle Mount supports people with disabilities and young people with cancer to enjoy all that Montana has to offer – from water sports to snow sports, horticulture to horsemanship, swimming and hiking and so much more!

Here's how you can help more:

Donate – The generosity of our community of donors makes Eagle Mount's wide array of programs, activities, groups and events possible. Eagle Mount needs your support to make our mission come alive. Donations of \$10,000, \$1000, \$100, and \$10 each make a special impact on the work we are able to do. Thank you for the important gifts you give!

Volunteer – What's more valuable than your time? Eagle Mount is only possible because of the time and expertise of our volunteers. THANK YOU! Learn more and sign up today: eaglemount.org/volunteer

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Sponsor – Sponsors support Eagle Mount's mission, underwrite specific Eagle Mount programs, and make Eagle Mount's premier fundraising events possible. We are grateful for the more than 150 corporate, foundation, individual and family sponsors who partner with us each year.

Learn more and sponsor today: eaglemount.org/sponsor or contact Stephanie Uter at events@eaglemount.org

Cash gifts, gifts of appreciated stock, grants, sponsorships, bequests, volunteer hours and in-kind donations all make Eagle Mount programming possible.

Eagle Mount Specialty Plates

For just \$20 per year, you can proudly display your support for Eagle Mount. Remember us when you register or renew your Montana plates this year!

Amazon Smile

You shop, Amazon gives. When you shop at www.smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate a percentage of your order to Eagle Mount when you choose us.

Smith's Inspiring Donations

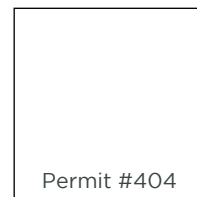
Enroll online, shop at Smith's using your rewards card, and earn money for Eagle Mount. www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow.

Thrivent's Choice

You can direct an annual contribution through your Thrivent Financial member services to Eagle Mount. www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/liiving-generously/thrivent-choice/

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Adventures.**

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