

---

## Marching Toward a World Without Barriers

Happy March, RTBI Family!

March is **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, a time specifically set aside to celebrate the contributions of people with developmental disabilities and to highlight the importance of inclusion in every aspect of community life. At RTBI, 'awareness' isn't just a month on the calendar—it's the fuel for our mission every single day.

This month, we are leaning into that mission with a very special update. We are thrilled to share a letter from the **StirringWaters** Board of Directors regarding the future of **StirringWaters**. As we advocate for a world where everyone has a seat at the table (and a spot in the water), this project remains a cornerstone of our commitment to all of God's children.

---

### A Message from the Heart of StirringWaters

Dear **StirringWaters** Family,

At the heart of our mission is a simple, powerful goal: **to create a space where everyone can get off the deck and into the water**. The name **StirringWaters** is deeply rooted in the healing account of **John 5**, where those seeking wholeness gathered by the pool, waiting for the "stirring of the water." For too long, many of our friends with disabilities have sat on the "deck" of life, watching from the sidelines. Like the invitation found in **Matthew 11:28**, where Jesus calls to all who are weary and burdened to find rest in Him, we believe **StirringWaters** will be a place of true belonging, refreshment, and peace for every body and every soul.

Because of your unwavering heart for this mission, we have reached significant milestones, including waves of generous support. Today, we are writing to share the exciting way this dream is evolving.

#### A Vision Re-imagined

We are currently in a season of re-imagining **StirringWaters**. While our commitment to a universally accessible aquatic experience remains absolute, we are refining the project to be a more **sustainable, mission-centric ministry**. This intentional design ensures that **StirringWaters** is perfectly scaled to serve our community for years to come. It is still going to be the experience you love—specifically designed for all abilities—focused on the heart of service and transformation that defines our mission.

#### Celebrating Your Legacy

Every bench, every hut, and every name on our walls represents a promise made to a community that is often overlooked. Your contributions are the bedrock of this project, and your impact is already being felt. We are honored to recognize the individuals and groups who have stepped up to lead the way:

**Click the link below to see who is Stirring the Waters**

## **Leadership & The Path Forward**

Our fundraising efforts continue as we move into this refined phase of construction. Your ongoing support is what will turn these blueprints into reality. We invite you to stay on this journey with us as we build a place where "Removing the Barriers" is a lived experience of God's inclusive love.

Thank you for your patience, your prayers, and your continued generosity.

With gratitude,

**The StirringWaters Team**

[See Who Is Stirring The Waters](#)

---

## **March in Motion: Impact Across the Community**

While we look ahead to the future of StirringWaters, our mission to remove barriers is happening **right now**. This month, RTBI was on the move, ensuring that art, nature, and community were accessible to everyone.

### **Art for All: The Lake Wales Art Festival**

Creativity should have no boundaries. We were proud to provide wheelchair-accessible golf carts and our Track Chairs for the **Lake Wales Art Festival**, allowing every art lover to navigate the grounds with ease and dignity.



A massive "**Thank You**" to our dedicated volunteers who made this possible: Nicholas Wiseman, Dick Howell, Oscar Rivera, Terri Miller, Nancy Johns and Matt Kirkland *You are the hands and feet of this ministry!*

### **Spiritual Refreshment at Lake Aurora**

Faith is a journey we take together. This month, we provided accessible equipment for both the **Men's Retreat** and **Young at Heart Days** at Lake Aurora Christian Camp. By removing physical barriers, we ensured that every participant could focus on fellowship and the Word.



### **Adventure Awaits: Camp Joy**

There is nothing quite like the magic of camp! We were honored to support **Camp Joy**, a five-day overnight experience for adults with disabilities. Our equipment—including our signature **29' Voyageur Canoes, Track Chairs and Accessible Golf Carts**—allowed campers to get off the shore and onto the water, experiencing the joy of the lake safely and inclusively.



### **Community & Connection: Peace River & First Presbyterian**

We had an incredible time this past weekend at the **Peace River Annual Family Picnic** in Wauchula! It was a joy to provide accessible services and ensure every family could celebrate together. We were especially proud to showcase

the equipment made possible by the **Operation RoundUp Grant**. To every **PRECO customer** who participates: **THANK YOU**. Your spare change is providing life-changing "change" and equipment for people with disabilities.

Next, we're headed to the **First Presbyterian Church of Lake Wales Mission Night** for a powerful evening sharing the RTBI heart for inclusion and our "re-imagined" vision for StirringWaters.

**Change Makes a Change!**  
 How PRECO Members are Transforming Lives

Today, you aren't just looking at equipment; you are looking at freedom, family, and dignity made possible by the pennies you donate through Operation Round Up.

Your spare change has provided:

- The Gift of Adventure: Our Track Chair allows individuals to conquer terrain that was once impossible, proving that there are no limits to where we can go.
- The Gift of Togetherness: Our 6-Passenger Accessible Golf Cart ensures that no one gets left behind. Families can now travel side-by-side to enjoy the outdoors.
- The Gift of Dignity: Our Mobile Calming Corner & Comfort Station provides a sensory-safe retreat and a full-sized adult changing table, allowing families to stay at events with peace of mind.

"Individually, it's just a few cents. Together, it's a life-changing movement."

From our family to yours: **THANK YOU, PRECO!**





**REMOVING BARRIERS**

www.removingthebarriers.org

### Explore the Wild: Tiger Creek Preserve

Did you know our Track Chairs have a permanent home for adventure? We are proud to continue our partnership with The Nature Conservancy at Tiger Creek Preserve. These all-terrain chairs allow individuals with mobility challenges to experience the rugged beauty of the Florida ridge—moving through the sand and trails just like everyone else.



[Tiger Creek Preserve Track Chair Reservation](#)

## The "Big Wheel" Update: Will Your Church Step Up?

Last month, we launched the **Big Wheel Challenge**, and the momentum is building! As we celebrate Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month, we are looking for more churches to become a "Big Wheel" by finding **12 "Spokes"** (12 individuals) to commit to a **\$25.00 monthly donation**.

This sustainable support is exactly what allows us to bring the Voyager Canoes to Camp Joy and the Track Chairs to the Art Festival.

[Click Here to Become a Monthly Spokesperson](#)



[Click Here To Start Your Big Wheel For All of God's Children.](#)

## Final Reminder: Summer is Splashing Down!

Don't forget—registration is **LIVE** for our **Second Annual Adaptive Water Ski Clinic** on **July 11th**.

Between the 29' Voyager Canoes at Camp Joy and our upcoming ski clinic, we are committed to making sure "all of God's children" can experience the joy of the water. Spots for the ski clinic are limited, so grab yours today!



Hurry! Space is Limited -  
Click Here to Register for Adaptive Ski Clinic

---

## A Closing Thought for March

As we celebrate **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month**, we leave you with the words that guide our board and our volunteers every day:

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."* —

**Matthew 11:28**

We aren't just removing physical barriers; we are clearing the path to the rest, joy, and belonging that Jesus promises to us all. Thank you for being a "Spoke" in our wheel and a partner in this mission.

**With Gratitude,**  
*The RTBI Family*

---

**Our Contact Information**  
Removing The Barriers Initiative  
237 Golden Bough Road  
Lake Wales, FL 33898  
833-457-7847  
<https://www.removingthebarriers.com>

Bill Redmon, Founder  
Removing the Barriers Initiative.



Donate Now