



## **Jordan River Assistance Fund Small Grants Program Fall 2025 Cycle Applications**

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**Wasatch Adaptive Sports**  
9385 S. Snowbird Center Drive  
Snowbird, Utah 84092

09/23/2025

Jordan River Commission  
P.O. Box 526081  
Salt Lake City, UT, 84152

Dear Soren & Board of the Jordan River Commission (JRC),

On behalf of everyone at Wasatch Adaptive Sports (WAS), I want to first and foremost express gratitude for the Jordan River Commission's continual stewardship of WAS's Adaptive Biking Program. Together, we have been able to ensure that the Jordan River Corridor is a place enjoyed by anyone in the community, regardless of disability status.

We would love to have your renewed support during the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program. Below, you will find an "Overview" of the program, the program "Budget," the program "Timeline," and a more detailed "Narrative" that dives into the need for the program and how it aligns with the JRC Blueprint goals. If you have any questions and/or concerns about the proposal, do not hesitate to reach out to our Grants Manager, Mikenna DeBruin, at [grants@wasatchadaptivesports.org](mailto:grants@wasatchadaptivesports.org) or 801-449-1159!

## **Overview & Objectives**

The 2026 Adaptive Biking Program was designed to both elevate the health benefits of and dismantle barriers to outdoor recreation for Utahns with disabilities. In Utah, where one in four people live with a disability—a demographic that is, according to Utah's Department of Health and Human Services

- Three times as likely to have depression or heart disease
- Twice as likely to be physically inactive—

it is incredibly important to create opportunities for people with disabilities to pursue lifelong active living whenever and wherever they choose. This importance is elevated when considering the fact that adaptive recreation is positively correlated with improvements in quality of life, life satisfaction, community reintegration, mood, and employment in those with disabilities. With the Jordan River parkway being situated in Utah's population and economic center, it is the perfect recreation corridor for WAS

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participants with disabilities to pursue the health benefits, joy, and community of adaptive recreation. Through the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program, WAS endeavors to...

- Facilitate 2,400 lessons, groups, and equipment fittings for 635 disabled Utahns.
- Report that at least 80% of participants experience improvements in physical health, mental health, overall quality of life, independence, and relationship with friends, family, and the community after biking with WAS.

## 2026 Adaptive Biking Program Budget & Program Funding

EXPENSES	
BUDGET ITEM	AMOUNT
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>\$813,322.75</b>
Direct Program Delivery	\$551,680.00
Program Administration	\$252,339.00
Training and Education and HR	\$9,303.75
<b>Program</b>	<b>\$121,071.04</b>
Program Operations	\$7,582.50
Insurance	\$21,600.00
Food and Beverage	\$3,100.00
Travel and Vehicle	\$12,787.20
Program Marketing and Outreach	\$11,781.00
Donated Services / In-Kind	\$22,979.64
Office and Facilities	\$37,055.70
Miscellaneous	\$4,185.00
<b>Mission Critical</b>	<b>\$44,000.10</b>
IT and Phone and Database	\$20,015.10
Professional Fees	\$12,600.00
Depreciation	\$11,385.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$978,393.89</b>

To achieve these goals, WAS is requesting **\$5,000** in support of the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program. The total program is projected to cost \$978,393.89—more than any previous iteration of the program. Year-over-year, WAS aims to expand the scope of the program, serving even more Utahns with disabilities, around 400,000 of whom are estimated to live in Salt Lake County. Thus far, WAS has raised \$462,500 from the following funders:

- John G. Searle Charitable Trust
- Byrne Family Foundation
- Craig H. Neilsen Foundation
- KUHL
- Bob and Carol Miller Giving Fund
- Sorenson Legacy Foundation
- Larry H. and Gail Miller Family Foundation
- HGGC
- Mountain Springs Foundation
- Miller Paving
- Integrity Marketing Group
- Jack R. Walter Foundation
- Adobe
- Williamsen Family Foundation
- Subaru
- Altabank
- The Gibney Family Foundation
- Rocky Mountain Power Foundation
- Intermountain Health
- Gongaware Charitable Foundation
- The Shipp Family
- Edwards Lifesciences
- Lawrence T. and Janet T. Dee Foundation
- Dave and Janet Deisley
- Wheeler Machinery Co

## **2026 Adaptive Biking Program Timeline**

Below is the timeline of the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program—both seasonal and weekly!

### *Season Timeline:*

- April 2026: Participant Registration & Instructor Training
- May 4th, 2026: Launch of the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program
- Weekly: Program Staff Meetings
- Monthly: Continuing Education Instructor Trainings
- September 2026: The WAS Hustle & Final Mile
- October 2026: Kids Camp
- October 30th, 2026: Close of the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program
- November 2026: Dissemination of Student Empowerment Evaluation

### *Weekly Timeline:*

- Mondays:
  - Mornings: Community Partner Group Rides
  - Evenings: Ladies Night Group Rides
- Tuesdays:
  - Mornings: Community Partner Group Rides or Lessons at Liberty Park
  - Evenings: Lessons and Group Rides at Liberty Park
- Wednesdays:
  - Mornings: Lessons and Group Rides at Millrace Park
  - Afternoons: Community Partner Group Rides
- Thursdays:



- Mornings: Lessons and Group Rides at Millrace Park
- Evenings: Mountain Biking Lessons and Group Rides
- Fridays:
  - Mornings: Lessons and Group Rides in Utah County

## **2026 Adaptive Biking Program Narrative**

WAS's 2026 Adaptive Biking Program will operate at 30 locations throughout Salt Lake, Tooele, Summit, and Utah counties; however, the most frequently used trailheads and trails are situated along the Jordan River like Millrace Park, East River Front Park, and Dr. O. Roi Hardy Park. It is with this in mind that WAS's program forefronts the "Comfort and Inclusivity" topic, where the primary goal is to make the parkway a welcoming place for visitors of all abilities, backgrounds, and circumstances. While the JRC supports inclusive infrastructure and facilities, WAS works diligently to dismantle barriers to adaptive biking.

Common barriers include that people with disabilities are twice as likely to live in poverty, often cannot use mass-manufactured bikes (i.e., upright, two-wheel bikes), often cannot afford adaptive bikes which cost between \$2,000 to \$20,000, and often require one-on-one instruction to navigate trails. To address these barriers, WAS offers scholarship assistance to all participants, maintains and transports a fleet of 121 adaptive bikes, and facilitates biking through small instructor-to-participant ratios, which allows participants to take ownership of their recreation experiences. All of these mechanisms are essential to even getting participants to a trailhead. The JRC's dedication to universal design and collaboration is ultimately what allows Utahns with disabilities to experience the transformative benefits of recreating within one of Utah's most prolific urban recreation corridors.

During the 2026 Adaptive Biking Program, WAS is endeavoring to reach even more Utahns with disabilities, connecting new and existing participants to the abundant opportunities along the Jordan River Trail. One of the ways that WAS anticipates increasing both participants and experiences is by collaborating more frequently with healthcare, school, and veteran community partners. By having instructors work together with physicians, teachers, and recreation therapists, WAS is able to co-create wellness during group rides, which in turn cultivates a sense of belonging between Utahns with disabilities that have shared experiences. Some of these partners include Intermountain Health, Primary Children's Hospital, Shriners Children's Hospital, Neuroworx, the Adult Ability Center, Granite Schools Pathways, Murray and South Valley Transition Schools, Salt Lake School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Salt Lake City VA.

Together, WAS and the JRC can impact more individuals like Heather's veteran clients, who bike weekly with WAS at Millrace Park. Heather states, "I have personally seen the powerful and positive impact that programming with WAS has had on my veterans, who have reported feeling an improvement of mood, physical health, and overall health and wellness. Veterans have also reported a significant decrease in cravings, triggers, and negative thoughts and feelings. These opportunities provided by the wonderful staff at WAS have changed lives and continue to change lives."

# Wasatch Adaptive Sports

Sharing the power of recreation with everyone since 1977.



***Wasatch Adaptive Sports' (WAS) mission is to empower people with disabilities to improve their physical, mental, and social well-being through outdoor recreation.***

**Learn More:** Participant stories and impact statistics!



Click the images to watch WAS' latest videos!

After participation in adaptive biking, % participants report improved:

**95%**

quality of life

**93%**

mental health

**93%**

physical health

**87%**

independence



Wasatch Adaptive Sports serves anyone with a permanent physical, cognitive, or developmental disability. Common diagnoses include autism, spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Down syndrome, brain injury, stroke, visual impairment, and multiple sclerosis.

Of participants, 97% live in Utah, 70% come from low- to moderate-income households, 30% are children, 30% identify as female or non-binary, 20% are ethnic or racial minorities, and 15% are veterans



**97%** of WAS lessons are supported by scholarships.

**Donate today** to empower adaptive athletes!

Visit [wasatchadaptivesports.org](https://wasatchadaptivesports.org) to learn more.



09/21/2025

To the Representatives of the Jordan River Commission,

I'm writing to express my enthusiastic support for WAS's Small Grant Proposal to the Jordan River Commission, an initiative that stands to further how individuals with disabilities and their families improve mental and physical health through movement and outdoor recreation.

The mission of WAS is both personally and professionally meaningful to me. In July of 2007 I woke up paralyzed in London, England. I was born with a vascular malformation that ruptured when I was twenty one which caused a T2 spinal cord injury. I had never experienced a medical issue in my life and all the sudden I am lying in a hospital bed, in a foreign country, paralyzed from the chest down and a wheelchair user. I spent my whole life up until that point looking for an adrenaline rush: surfing, freediving, skateboarding. That was all taken away from me!

My first experience with the healing power of adaptive sports was as a patient sliding down the mountain on a monoski in Whistler, British Colombia. I was hooked, I was able to experience that adrenaline rush again! Regardless if I ever walked again I knew I could have my life back!

Fast forward 7 years and I had made a pretty significant recovery from my spinal cord injury. I decided that I wanted to give back to the spinal cord injury community and become a physical therapist. I sought to treat patients with similar injuries to my own. I have now spent the last decade working as a physical therapist at a speciality spinal cord injury physical therapy facility in Salt Lake City, known as Neuroworx. I happen to be one of the many health care providers who refer patients to WAS for a multitude of reasons: to allow them to be athletic again, to get them outside to breathe fresh air, to take their minds off their difficult situation, to participate with their families, to create social interactions, and to just have fun. I truly believe every individual, regardless of their ability, should have the same opportunity to experience recreation.

With the Jordan River Corridor being embedded within the communities and neighborhoods of my patients and Utahns with disabilities, it is an incredible resource and space that can be accessible for anyone—regardless of their disability or life-altering injury—to get outside. In the Jordan River Commission's Blueprint, two core pillars are "Comfort and Inclusivity" and "Recreation." WAS embodies these values through its Adaptive Biking Program, providing the equipment, instruction, and scholarships to complement the Jordan River Corridor's expansive trail network and to ensure that systemic barriers beyond the constructed environment are dismantled. By renewing support

for this proposal, the Jordan River parkway will continue to be a welcoming place for people of all abilities, within and outside of WAS's biking programs.

For nearly five decades, WAS has been a driving force in helping people with disabilities engage in movement and activity on their own terms. The impact is clear: over 90% of participants report measurable improvements in physical health, mental well-being, and overall quality of life.

This collaboration between the JRC and WAS is about expanding access, possibility, and community. The 2026 Adaptive Biking Program opens up a world of opportunity for individuals of all abilities to move, connect, and thrive.

I hope you'll join us in making this vision a reality.

Sincerely,

Matthew Carter, DPT

Neuroworx



**GEORGE E. WAHLEN  
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER  
Salt Lake City Health Care System  
500 Foothill Drive  
Salt Lake City, UT 84148**



June 9, 2025

The Office of National Veterans Sports Programs and Special Events Office

As the Recreational Therapists for both SARRTP and SOAR Programs at the George E. Wahlen VA Medical Center (USDVA), we are writing in support of Wasatch Adaptive Sports. For several years The George E. Wahlen Medical Center (USDVA) has been able to provide adaptive recreational therapy programs that nurture minds, bodies and spirits of our disabled veterans and disabled members of the armed forces.

One of the important aspects of our recovery programs is to provide veterans with a community that is safe, sober, and supportive - WAS helps us to achieve our therapeutic objectives.

During the warmer months, Wasatch Adaptive Sports provides us with a weekly biking program at Millrace Park along the Jordan River Trail that helps veterans obtain/maintain good physical conditioning and an opportunity to recreate in a safe, sober, and supportive environment. The program has been so popular this season that we are hoping that with additional funding WAS will enable more veterans to participate in 2026.

While the primary population we serve are veterans with a primary diagnosis of SUD, in reality most of the veterans have comorbid conditions including PTSD, MST, physical disabilities, chronic pain and others. Over 90% of our veterans have a mental health diagnosis and 70% have medical health issues. Thanks to Wasatch Adaptive Sports our veterans are able to participate in cost free programs that provide them with opportunities to heal and thrive. In reality our role is to help veterans manage their physical and emotional pain in a healthy and productive manner. Thanks to our association with WAS we are in a position to help our veterans experience calmness, community, and commitment while engaging in amazing activities.

It is our most sincere hope that you will see fit to provide Wasatch Adaptive Sports with sufficient monies to help them, help us, in helping those women and men who served our nation.

**Dr. William R. Klinger**

Dr. William R. Klinger, CTRS #15347

Recreation Therapist - George E. Wahlen DVAMC

[William.Klinger@va.gov](mailto:William.Klinger@va.gov)

**Heather Connelly**

Heather Connelly, CTRS #69592

Recreation Therapist - George E. Wahlen DVAMC

[Heather.Connelly@va.gov](mailto:Heather.Connelly@va.gov)

## Jordan River Commission Grant Proposal

Grant Writer: Zachary Bird

Title: Founder/CEO

Requesting Organization: Utah Outdoor Therapies

Mailing Address: 1463 W Preston Villa Cove, West Jordan, Utah 84088

Contact: Zachary Bird

Phone Number: 425-260-5445

Email: [events@utah-outdoor-therapies.org](mailto:events@utah-outdoor-therapies.org)

EIN:33-3198852

### Overview:

Title: Utah Outdoor Therapies Odyssey House Project

Location(s):

Kayaking Activity Start ([973 W 12300 S, Draper, UT 84020](#)), Finish ([947 W Shields Lane, South Jordan, UT 84095](#))

Biking Activity Start ([1070 W 7800 S, Midvale, UT 84047](#)), Turn Around Point (([973 W 12300 S, Draper, UT 84020](#)))

Paddleboarding Activity (6700 N Saratoga Rd)

Pickle Ball Activity ([10991 S River Front Pkwy, South Jordan, UT 84095-3538](#))

Disc Golf Activity ([12127 S Vahe St Draper, UT 84065 United States](#))

Fishing Activity ([10991 S River Front Pkwy, South Jordan, UT 84095-3538](#))

### Purpose:

To provide 1 outdoor or adventure-based activity a month for Odyssey House over the course of 12 months. We hope in providing these activities clients in recovery who attend Odyssey House can discover activities they are passionate about and learn how to access them in their community. These passions will act as a coping mechanism to reduce or prevent relapses after their treatment is finished.

## Objectives:

1. Increase access to outdoor and adventure-based activities to individuals and families in mental health and addiction treatment.
2. Increase awareness of community mental health and outdoor recreation resources.
3. Increase traffic, access and outdoor recreation to Jordan River and Parkway

## Project Budget:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1jCjset4nLiVXjkAUROdkLeoePprFQajnVr-eTF7HfiQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Funding Request: \$5,000 in full or in part

Matching Contributions: 6,000 (Odyssey House- Anticipated)- Odyssey House contribution will go towards paying staff. JRC contribution will go towards equipment cost.

Timeline: May 2026-October 2026

Milestones: Pickleball Activity May 2026, Disc Golf Activity June 2026, Kayaking Activity July 2026, Paddle Boarding Activity August 2026, Biking Activity September 2026, Fishing Activity October 2026

## Narrative

This project aims to aid the goals of the Blueprint Jordan River by supporting in the areas of “Recreation” and “Communications, Education and Art.” This project “supports, expands and enhances opportunities for recreation” by providing access to activities on the Jordan River and Parkway that these clients in addiction recovery would not otherwise have access to. Similarly, this project encourages “community engagement” by bringing other organization such as Odyssey House, Spark Good and Rocky Mountain Power to provide activities that will improve health outcomes for an underserved population. Overall, this project hopes to build a community that is driven to provide resources for individuals and families who are involved in mental health treatment programs in Utah. Outdoor and adventure based mental health treatment is typically costly and has barriers to access like extensive travel, which prevents people from engaging in them. Our organization provides these services at no additional cost to the clients in these inpatient programs. Utah



Outdoor Therapies has been funded in the past by the Jordan River Commission and has seen remarkable success serving over 35 people in our September 2025 biking activity and over 70 in our October 2025 Fishing activity. We anticipate that this project will serve over 120 individuals and families directly. We anticipate even more will be impacted indirectly as fathers, mothers and family members return home with the skills they need to continue in sobriety.

Additional Note: For our Kayaking activity we will be taking 25-30 people Kayaking. In addition to the funding request, we would also like to propose that the JRC allow Utah Outdoor Therapies to borrow several kayaks and canoes for this activity. If this is something that is doable, we would greatly appreciate it.

Activity	Materials Needed	Cost	Notes
Kayaking Activity	Kayaks, Canoes, Life Jackets	750	Potential to borrow from the JRC
Biking Activity	Bikes, Helmets, Repair Kits	1500	Potential to borrow from the Evo
Paddle Boarding Activity	Paddleboards, Life Jackets, Paddles, Pumps	1500	
Pickle Ball Activity	Paddles, Pickleballs, Court Reservation	350	
Disc Golf Activity	Discs	350	

Fishing Activity	Fishing Poles, Additional Tackle, Bait	750	Potential to borrow from the DWR	
		Total Materials Cost		
		5200		

## Letter Of Support

Dear Jordan River Commission Board,

On behalf of **Odyssey House of Utah**, I am pleased to offer this letter in strong support of **Utah Outdoor Therapies (UTOT)** for your grant consideration.

Odyssey House has served Utah communities since 1971 as the state's largest and most comprehensive addiction treatment provider. Our mission is to empower individuals to heal and build better lives through evidence-based substance use and mental health treatment—including residential, outpatient, dual-diagnosis care, sober housing, and harm-reduction services—with a strong emphasis on treating the “whole person” ([odysseyhouse.org](https://odysseyhouse.org)).

Our partnership with Utah Outdoor Therapies began in mid-2025, when UTOT began offering free, locally based outdoor mental health experiences to individuals in our clinical programs. Their model—integrating activities such as rock climbing, biking, hiking, and kayaking into therapeutic care—pulls people into outdoor safe space while remaining deeply grounded in community settings.

Through this collaboration we have seen firsthand the remarkable value UTOT brings:

- **Enhanced client engagement:** Participants in therapy show increased willingness to engage when offered restorative outdoor experiences that complement counseling.
- **Improved well-being and recovery trajectories:** Feedback from both clients and counselors consistently highlights gains in mood, self-confidence, stress relief, and meaningful connection to peers.
- **Continuity of care without displacement:** Utah Outdoor Therapies enables participants to stay connected with family and local support systems instead of traveling away or entering residential placements solely for outdoor access.

Since January 2025, UTOT has grown rapidly. After launching with a small hike (later canceled due to the founder's newborn arrival), they served 20 clients through kayaking in July and 25 through rock climbing in August—with 45 expected in a September biking activity. Their focus on removing financial, logistical, and familial barriers has made outdoor therapy accessible in our shared local community.

Utah Outdoor Therapies, under the leadership of founder **Zachary Bird**, is a promising and mission-aligned organization. Zach's personal experience—growing up with a father

struggling with addiction—and his pursuit of mental health work, followed by discovery of outdoor therapy's healing power, make his vision especially compelling ([lassonde.utah.edu](http://lassonde.utah.edu)).

We believe UTOT aligns strongly with the Jordan River Commissions in community engagement and recreation. Supporting the Blueprint Jordan River initiative. Please consider this letter as a wholehearted endorsement. If you have any questions or would like additional detail about our partnership or client outcomes, I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you further.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Mario Rodriguez**

**Odyssey House of Utah**

**MARIO RODRIGUEZ, LSUDC, LPPP**

**Program Manager**

**Odyssey House of Utah, Meadowbrook Adult Residential**

**61 West 3900 South**

**Millcreek, UT 84107**

**Office: (385) 425-3279**

**Fax: (801) 210-5036**

## Glendale Neighborhood Council – Small Grants Proposal

### *4<sup>th</sup> Annual Art @ the Gardens - 2026*

#### **Contact Information**

Glendale Neighborhood Council  
c/o Sarah Wolfe, Treasurer / Chair of Arts Committee  
1152 S 800 W  
Salt Lake City, UT 84104  
(919) 220-6292  
[smartseventsandprograms@gmail.com](mailto:smartseventsandprograms@gmail.com)  
[www.glendaleslc.org](http://www.glendaleslc.org)

#### **OVERVIEW**

##### *Art @ the Gardens*

Presented by Glendale Neighborhood Council

Saturday, April 25, 2026 from 10am-4pm

@ International Peace Gardens

*Art @ the Gardens*, a West Side community art event, is a direct result of feedback from the Glendale community via a survey assessing what community members want in their neighborhood in the coming years. The survey showed a strong desire for more art here in Glendale – public art, community events and interactive opportunities. As a result of this feedback, Glendale Neighborhood Council created an Arts Committee, which has been pursuing creative projects, including wall and street murals, banners, art panels, and events such as *Art @ the Gardens*, now heading into its 4<sup>th</sup> year.

Previously held at Three Creeks Confluence, this year's event will be the second in its new location, International Peace Gardens. This has given us more space for programming and attendance, as well as brought more attention to this beautiful and historic park on the West Side. We have collaborated with many entities to bring the event to fruition from year to year: Salt Lake City Public Lands, Salt Lake City Arts Council, Seven Canyons Trust, University of Utah, KRCL, Art Access, Utah Film Center, SpyHop, local artists and other members of the Glendale community. Funding has come from Jordan River Commission, Seven Canyons Trust, Neighborworks, ACE Fund, Salt Lake City Arts Council, Love Your Block, Dawn Corporate Giving and private foundations.

Highlighting artists based in and/or connected to Glendale and neighboring communities is key in our efforts, and we also seek to promote the hard work of our partner organizations and those participating arts organizations that engage our community members. Past participants have included a host of visual, musical, theatrical, dance and interactive artists. Alongside the arts, we are dedicated to promoting the Jordan River Trail, which Jordan River Commission, Salt Lake City, Glendale Neighborhood Council and other community entities work hard to maintain and improve as the pathway that unites our community and connects our neighborhood to those adjoining ours.

Our arts committee is prepared and excited to grow and enhance this fourth annual event. Our goals are to bring more art to Glendale, develop ongoing partnerships with like-minded community organizations, highlight community artists and organizations, and bring our community together, now and into the future.

We will have a primary partnership with KRCL-FM, community radio, for the second year. Ebay Hamilton, Program Director at KRCL, is on our planning committee and will be heading up music programming and supporting the event through promotion on the radio station.

As we head into our fourth year, we continue to seek out new elements to the event, including:

- Working for the second year with University of Utah's Department of Art & Art History's *Art in the Community* course, a spring offering for art education students. Students will develop an interactive program specifically for *Art @ the Gardens* that changes from year to year, along with its students.
- Commissioning an artist to create a multi-sensory installation that can be touched, heard, seen and otherwise experienced by a wider audience, including those with hearing and sight impairment and other physical and developmental disabilities.
- Commissioning an artist to create a relevant and engaging sidewalk mural at or near the entry to International Peace Gardens, including a community participation element.
- Working with Repertory Dance Theatre to offer engaging, fun, colorful and family-friendly dance performances, both on the stage and around the event footprint.

We will also continue with popular elements from past years:

- Working for a second year with Making Waves Artist Collective, an interactive puppetry group
- Live music and dance hosted by KRCL
- Interactive art demonstrations
- Art vendors
- Non-profit arts organization booths
- Food trucks

We seek to pursue ongoing efforts, before and beyond this event, to make our neighborhood a better, more enjoyable, enriching and creative place to live, work and recreate.

**BUDGET** (see attached)

## **TIMELINE**

October - November

- Conceptualize
- Plan, schedule
- Start fundraising

- Start inviting participants

#### December

- Continue fundraising
- Start contracting food trucks, artists, musicians, art vendors and other participants
- Reserve or rent needed amenities

#### January – February

- Start volunteer recruitment
- Send out Save the Date publicity

#### March

- Continue volunteer recruitment
- Finalize event plan and participants
- Start marketing & publicity for event

#### April

- Finalize volunteer schedule
- Prepare and send volunteer and participant instructions
- Host event (April 25)
- Disseminate event survey to partners, sponsors, volunteers and participants

#### May

- Assess surveys, record data and meet to discuss what went well and where improvement is needed
- Submit grant reports

## **BLUEPRINT JORDAN RIVER ACTION PLAN**

### **Building Community**

Glendale Neighborhood Council is focused on improving the lives of our community members through river and park cleanups, public meetings sharing important info about what's happening in our neighborhood, and hosting events such as Art @ the Gardens to bring our community together and invite others to join us in celebrating Glendale, which hosts a long section of the Jordan River and Jordan River Trail.

### **Recreation and Tourism**

Community events, and the parks they take place in, are a key part of recreation opportunities for our Glendale neighbors. Though it's not likely that visitors will come from outside the city, they sometimes do, and last year we had a total of approximately 700 attendees to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art @ the Gardens.

### **Education and Interpretation**

We seek to incorporate educational elements into all of our events, whether they are about the arts, the Jordan River, or both. Last year, we worked with University of Utah's "Art in the Community" class on an interactive evolving art installation that focused on the path of the Jordan River, and we worked with Making Waves Artist Collective to educate visitors on the fauna of the Jordan River through interactive puppetry.

### **MATCHING FUNDS**

Though we are on the front end of applying for grant funds to support this event, we have had the past and recent support of all of the entities we are applying to this year. We expect funds from other sources than Jordan River Commission will make up approximately 5/6 of our budget.

### **PAST SUPPORT**

Jordan River Commission has supported Art @ the Gardens (or previously Art @ the Confluence) every year we have held the event, and Soren Simonsen has participated with an information booth 3 out of 4 of those years as well.

### **TANGIBLE OUTCOMES**

Glendale Neighborhood Council has received much positive feedback about this event, from community members, artists, event partners, funders and municipal entities. We have increased attendance substantially over the last 4 years, from approximately 300 to 700. This isn't intended to be a city-wide event, though we invite anyone who wishes to attend to do so. It is intended to be by, about and for our community. Hence, we don't expect our numbers to grow exponentially. It has been a wonderful opportunity for U of U students, artists looking to sell their wares, artists interested in engaging the public in their work, and for educators interested in sharing knowledge through the arts.

This event, and other objectives of the Glendale Neighborhood Council, are intended to benefit our Glendale community members, the spaces we spend time in, and those organizations that work within and for our community. We hope you will consider our proposal for *Art @ the Gardens*.

Many thanks.

Glendale Neighborhood Council - [www.glendaleslc.org](http://www.glendaleslc.org)

Art projects - <https://glendaleslc.org/updates/tag/Glendale+Arts+Committee>



# PROJECT BUDGET:

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Art @ the Gardens 2026

Glendale Neighborhood Council

INCOME	INCOME AMOUNT	COMMENTS / EXPLANATION
Jordan River Commission	\$2,500.00	Small Grants Program
ACE Fund (Arts, Culture & Entertainment)	\$2,500.00	Grant from Mayor's Office
Salt Lake City Arts Council	\$2,000.00	Project Grant
Love Your Block Grant	\$2,000.00	For mural component of event
Dawn Corporate Giving	\$5,000.00	National source
Andrea Watt and Robert Teitelbaum Charitable Fund	\$2,000.00	gave in 2025, may not give again
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$16,000.00</b>	

EXPENSES	EXPENSE AMOUNT	COMMENTS / EXPLANATION
Artist Fees	\$8,500.00	Artist demos, performances, mural art, craft activities, large-scale visual/performance artist
Contracted Services	\$1,500.00	Event Management / Volunteer Coordination
Rentals	\$2,500.00	Tents, tables, chairs, sound equipment, potties
Program Supplies/Expenses	\$1,000.00	Trash/recycling receptacles, infrastructure
Publicity/Marketing Expenses	\$1,750.00	Ads, FB boosts, banners, event signage, flyers
Event Permit Fees	\$500.00	Through SLC.gov
Insurance (non-employee related)	\$250.00	Event insurance (1M policy)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$16,000.00</b>	

In-kind Services & Goods	Value	
+ Volunteer Hours	\$3,349.00	100 hours at \$33.49/hr
43 Bakery – pastries for volunteers	\$200.00	
Glow Spa – free yoga class	\$100.00	

**Status**

App due by end of Oct

App due Nov 1

App due Nov 2

App due Nov 30

App due Jan 2026

App due Jan 2026



October 30, 2025

Greetings, To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Glendale Neighborhood Council's application for funding to provide meaningful community arts programming on Salt Lake's west side. While our respective organizations have different missions, Art Access' work aligns with the Glendale Neighborhood Council's efforts to provide access to the arts in partnership with community partners.

In the past, Art Access gained several valuable connections to disabled individuals and disability advocates through participating in GNC community convenings. In the future, Art Access is excited to lend our accessibility expertise to promote access for patrons across abilities at the GNC's events.

As a Glendale resident and member of the Salt Lake City Arts Council, representing District 2, I recognize the Glendale Neighborhood Council as an important steward. Art @ the Gardens provides invaluable opportunities to connect community members with organizations that enhance well-being and provide resources with an emphasis on our shared responsibilities to each other as neighbors and citizens. Their work has deepened my sense of connectedness and safety in my neighborhood. I am grateful to collaborate with the Glendale Neighborhood Council, and hope funding from your organization will make these collaborations possible.

Warmest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Huggins", is written over the printed name.

Gabriella Huggins  
Executive Director, Art Access



[www.artaccessutah.org](http://www.artaccessutah.org)



[@artaccessutah](https://www.instagram.com/artaccessutah)



[connect@artaccessutah.org](mailto:connect@artaccessutah.org)



October 30, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the Glendale Neighborhood Council's application for funding the 4th Annual Art @ the Gardens event in 2026, a free art event highlighting Glendale and West Side artists, non-profits, businesses, and municipal entities that serve their community members.

In my role as a community-engaged artist and University of Utah Art Department faculty, I look for opportunities to partner with local arts organizations and community leaders. Arts advocacy through outreach results in long-term partnerships that have lasting impacts on University of Utah students and the organizations with which they collaborate.

Each spring, I teach a course titled "Art in the Community: Art Education Beyond School Walls." The course is designed to give my university students experience learning and implementing best practices for community-based art education. Last year, Sarah Wolfe, on behalf of the Glendale Neighborhood Council, was gracious enough to work with my class, helping us weave the course objectives into the already robust network of programming and partnerships involved in the Art @ the Gardens event.

Over the course of the semester, my students designed a multi-faceted art-making event to encourage participants to engage with their surroundings in new and unconventional ways. Students conducted multiple site visits to the International Peace Gardens, engaged in research through asset-based mapping projects, and developed programming that prompted attendees to reflect on their own connections to their local environment.

The result was a series of art-making stations set up around the park. Attendees were given a "Peace Passport" that they could get stamped at different locations throughout the garden. There was a button-making booth, a watercolor painting station, a table to create sun prints, and a site-specific, community-led sculpture created to emulate the path of the Jordan River.

Thanks to the organization of the event and the physical and social infrastructure set up and maintained by the Glendale Neighborhood Council, my students were afforded the opportunity to practice their skills as community-based art educators. It was clear from student feedback and reflection that this experience had a profound effect on their learning and professional development.

While my “Art in the Community” class will be led by a different instructor in 2026, I am happy to announce that we will be continuing our partnership with the Glendale Neighborhood Council, reflecting the efficacy of long-term and sustainable community collaborations.

Having worked with members of the Glendale Neighborhood Council and attended events, I would like to share my professional opinion that they deserve to be fully funded. I strongly urge the granting association to fully fund this event, as it plays a vital role in fostering meaningful community engagement and arts education.

Sincerely,



**Joshua Graham** (he/him/his)  
***Assistant Professor, Art Teaching***  
Department of Art & Art History  
The University of Utah  
Office: 801-5818677



To whom it may concern,

My name is Ebay Hamilton. I am the Director of Programming and Operations for Community Radio Station KRCL in Salt Lake City, and a long-time resident of the West-side neighborhoods of Poplar Grove and Glendale. I am writing this letter to offer my support for the Glendale Neighborhood Councils requests for a grant.

I've worked with the Glendale Neighborhood Council since 2024, helping to present 'Jazz in the Park' and 'Art at the Gardens' events at The International Peace Gardens. I've also attended their previous event, Art at The Confluence, in 2023. Their events were well organized, well attended, family-friendly, and free to attend.

It is my hope that you will approve their requests to bring another high-quality event to the under-served neighborhood of Glendale on Salt Lake City's diverse West-side.

Thank you,  
Ebay Hamilton  
[ebayh@krcl.org](mailto:ebayh@krcl.org)  
801-548-5856

KRCL 90.9fm  
Director of Programming and Operations / On-Air Host



