

Reaching out to and empowering people affected by limb loss to achieve their full potential through education, support and advocacy, and to promote limb loss prevention

# Letter From the Board Chair

Greetings-

The year 2015 was a great year for the Amputee Coalition. We followed our plan to grow our outreach and education programs and we also reacted strongly to an unexpected attack on access to medically appropriate care for people with limb loss and limb difference. I am proud of both aspects of our work — the ability to focus on our mission and the nimble response to a dramatic threat against the population we serve.



We saw increased numbers of people using our digital resources through our Web site, through social media, and via our Webinar education. At the same time, record-breaking attendance at our National Conference and our Paddy Rossbach Youth Camp showed an increasing demand for person-to-person contact.

Our National Conference in Tucson was a tremendous success. Community members from all across the country came together for three days of friendship, education and empowerment. Conference attendees included people of all ages and backgrounds, each with a unique story but a shared desire to connect with and to support other fellow amputees. Activities included comprehensive education, gait training, special interest meetings and — last, but not least — several social events, culminating in the Saturday night dinner and dance. It is not often that people with limb loss and limb difference are the majority, but at our events they are. We offer programs that are relevant, people that understand, and a mission that is focused on helping them live well with limb loss.

As a donor-funded nonprofit, none of this year's efforts would have been possible without the financial support of our community, our sponsors, our partners and our incredible volunteers. Every gift was important, from the few dollars that helped ensure that someone facing limb loss got a copy of *First Step*, to our national sponsors' substantial commitment to sustaining programs like our Peer Visitor training and mentoring.

In pursuit of our effort to ensure that no one has to struggle alone, the Amputee Coalition continues to build support and services for the 507 people who face limb loss every day, as well as the nearly 2 million living with limb loss and limb difference in the United States.

Please accept my thanks for your support, and my challenge to help meet the community's needs in the coming year.

Dan Berschinski,

2015 Board Chair, Amputee Coalition

## **2015 Focus:**

## Expanding the Impact of Our Mission by Extending Our Reach

# Our Mission

Our Vision

To reach out to and empower people affected by limb loss to achieve their full potential through education, support and advocacy, and to promote limb loss prevention.

Be recognized as the premier organization for people affected by limb loss and limb difference and as a leader in limb loss prevention.

- **1.** Strengthen the National Conference by increasing educational opportunities as well as providing more in-person options for interaction and support.
- **2.** Bolster advocacy through partnerships, regular education and communication, and planned activities.
- **3.** Continue to build resources through staff training and materials development to ensure that increasing service demands can be met without compromising quality.

### **National Limb Loss Resource Center**

The National Limb Loss Resource Center (NLLRC) is the only national resource center dedicated to providing information and resources to people affected by limb loss. The certified staff provides information, resources and support opportunities through our toll-free call center and our online form. Our staff regularly provide answers to everything from practical questions like "How can I adapt my home so I can live safely?" to very personal questions like "How do I cope with body issues and sexuality?"

In 2015, the Amputee Coalition saw a dramatic 162 percent increase in the number of people served. In addition to expanded volume, the resource center staff completed certification for Information and Referral Specialists in Aging and Disabilities.

The individuals served gave the Coalition high marks for the materials and service they received. In fact, 92 percent stated that the materials had a positive or very positive impact on them, a direct reflection of the quality of the resources and information we provide and the strong focus on the organization's mission and goals.

#### **National Conference**

With 872 registered attendees, the July 23-25 event in Tucson, Arizona offered highly regarded education sessions and clinics as well as the chance to network and provide support to the community. The record 70 sessions included Carol Miller and Karen Sullivan's Gait Analysis Clinic, Kevin Carroll's Bilateral Above-Knee Mobility Clinic, and Bob Gailey's Walking and Mobility Enhancement Clinic and

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Running and High-Level Performance Clinic. The professionally vetted presentations included tracks tailored to living with your level of limb loss, roundtable discussions for a variety of groups, recreational opportunities, advancements in technology, and psychosocial, physical and emotional well-being.

In addition to the sessions, attendees highly value the chance to network and interact with others who share similar experiences, creating lifelong connections.

## Release of Your New Journey Materials

A critical time for every person affected by limb loss is just before and after an amputation. The *Your New Journey* materials are evidence-based and designed to address questions and provide information and support at this tumultuous time. This folder is customizable, with additional materials and information to address each individual's needs based on their specific level of limb loss, including pain management, recovery and adjustment, emotional and psychosocial needs, and much more.

## **Limb Loss Education Days**

To create connections locally, the Amputee Coalition held three Limb Loss Education Days (LLEDs) in 2015, in Washington, D.C., Columbus, Ohio, and Portland, Oregon. These events were attended by 304 people who were able to experience educational presentations, adaptive sports, and activities. The LLED program also creates a valuable chance for social interaction for people affected by limb loss and limb difference. In addition, exhibitors are available at these events to share products and services relevant to the attendees.

In their opinion, nearly 90 percent of the attendees rated the information provided and learned as being "somewhat" or "very" useful.

## **Advocacy**

2015 was filled with several insurance coverage challenges, including the Lower Limb Prosthetics Local Coverage Determination (LCD, DL 33787). From early assessment of the threat to rolling out a full advocacy and communication plan, the Coalition led the work to ensure the consumer voice was heard. With dramatic response, including more than 100,000 signatures gathered on a White House "We the People" petition, and more than 13,000 letters sent to members of Congress, the President and regulators, the proposed limits were halted. Thousands of people took time to speak out and support this issue. Additional federal and state advocacy work continued, including eliminating the "one limb per limb per lifetime" cap on the New York State benchmark plan for the 2016 plan year and continued support for research advancements in orthotics and prosthetics and for programs and resources that benefit the limb loss community.

# **Financials**

#### Statement of Activities

### **Support and Other Revenue**

Donations and Sponsorships	557,845
Grants Receipts	2,355,231
Publication Advertising	215,192
Memberships	117,450
National Conference	115,258
Sales of Educational Material & Other	159,286
<b>Total Support and Other Revenue</b>	3,520,262

### **Expenses**

<b>Total Expenses</b>	3,149,572
Fundraising	186,353
Management & General	684,530
Program Services	2,278,689

### **Statement of Financial Position**

#### **Assets**

Cash & Equivalents	884,162
Investments	305,321
Accounts Receivable	110,957
Contributions Receivable	153,994
Grants Receivable	272,602
Fixed Assets	47,063
Other Assets	187,620
<b>Total Assets</b>	1,961,719

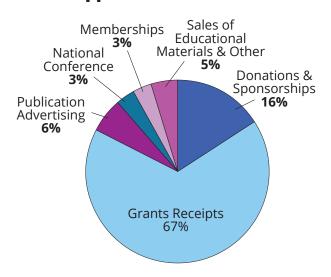
### Liabilities

<b>Total Liabilities</b>	382,587
Deferred Revenue	67,232
Accounts Payable & Accrued Liabilities	315,355

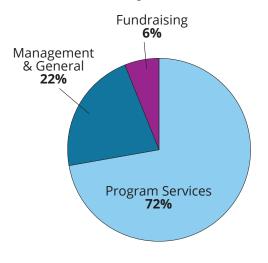
#### **Net Assets**

<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	1,961,719
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	1,579,132
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	753,648
Unrestricted Net Assets	825,484

## **Support & Other Revenue**



## **Expenses**



# Individuals, Families & Corporations

#### \$10,000 +

Associated Students of Stanford University

\*Cincinnati Dreams Come True

Lauretta K. Peters and Richard R. Peters Charitable Foundation

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These organizations have worked with us on specific projects that assist us in the enhancement of our mission

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American Diabetes Association

American Orthotic and Prosthetic Association

(AOPA)

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"As a donor-funded nonprofit, none of this year's efforts would have been possible without the financial support of our community, our sponsors, our partners and our incredible volunteers."

~ Dan Berschinski

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