



Lead. Believe. Create.



## 2020 A CHALLENGING SUCCESS!

Fuel The Drive faced some major obstacles deploying its financial resources this year due to COVID related restrictions with many small and large group activities. But as challenging as it may have been for our organization, the youth and families that we aim to support were as challenged as we were on a daily basis. The pandemic placed significant economic burdens on many families. Many youths struggled, and are still struggling, with social isolation and uncertainty. Very few youths are getting proper amounts of physical activity affecting their overall health.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Fuel the Drive raised over \$25,000 its first year thanks to the generosity of its donors, including MVP corporate sponsors Synergy Appraisal Services and Westerra Credit Union, as well as those that supported the “Hydration Station” throughout the summer at The Club at Inverness.

Even with the uncertainty of when, how, and where youth sports could safely operate during the early days of the pandemic, we ultimately were able to sponsor golfers for the PGA Jr. League at The Club at Inverness. As part of “The Ness Monsters” (the team name chosen by the kids) our sponsored junior golfers participated in six coaching

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“I wanted to personally thank you for this opportunity! Up to this point, Chris didn’t have a sport he could call his own. Golf provides that for him and a way for us to bond.”

-Michael





“ I knew I liked golf, but I didn't know how much yet and now I do. YES! I want to play with my new friends again next season. I want to keep playing golf. Because I'm going to be the best. Thank you for helping me play.” -Dominic

sessions led by PGA Professionals Coach Matt Lodwick and Coach Dave Steinmetz. Playing as a team, the junior golfers also participated in ten “matches” against other local PGA Jr. League teams utilizing a nurturing and social scramble format designed to encourage skill and character development.

The Ness Monsters kicked off the season with a pizza party and a “How Far Does It Go?” event and ended the season with a Kids vs. Parents event complete with pizza, cotton candy, Dippin' Dots, and prize raffle. The result—FUN ALL SUMMER LONG! Pictures and videos from throughout the season can be found on our Facebook page @fuelthedriverfoundation, but the personal thank you notes from our junior golfers say it best!!

With the continued support of our donors and supporters, Fuel the Drive is committed to providing athletic opportunities to children in underserved communities in 2021. We are currently working with USTA Colorado to sponsor a SERVES youth tennis program in the metro-Denver area in 2021. Through quality instruction, the free SERVES youth tennis program provides a platform for players to develop tennis skills while offering a leadership component focused on concepts like respect, responsibility, teamwork, and service.

In addition to the SERVES program, we look forward to continuing to sponsor junior golfers for the PGA Jr. League at The Club at Inverness in Englewood, Colorado. New in 2021, we also anticipate expanding our junior golf sponsorship reach to the PGA Jr. League

at Meadows Golf Club in Littleton, Colorado thanks to Coach Matt Lodwick!

Outside of Colorado, we are set to partner with DJ's Golf Center in Southern New York on the much-anticipated return of their Junior Golf Camp in 2021 after being forced to take a hiatus last year due to the pandemic. DJ's is owned and operated by the Sarta family with deep PGA Tour experience and a love golf. The key to the continuation of the lifetime sport of golf, DJ's devoted staff provides three weeks of golf camps for underserved communities in Southern New York and Northern Pennsylvania.

2021 will no doubt bring additional challenges, but with your support Fuel The Drive will continue to overcome obstacles for our youth!



*Terry & Michelle Aikin*

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 MVP SPONSORS:

