



## Running Blind 2019 Annual Report

6-28-20

### Hello friends, Running Blind members and supporters!

I hope 2019 and 2020 so far has treated you well. I know it's been a very difficult stretch of time with all of the changes from the coronavirus, and also all of the demonstrations. For me last year was a difficult year as I endured radiation treatments for cancer, and then tried to refocus my life after that – which it seems I'm still in the process of doing! My energy for Running Blind has taken a backseat to some other issues such as my health, but I did manage to get something things done last year. I helped organize a couple of new running pairs, one in Toledo, and one in Denver, but unfortunately as is often the case, they have both concluded and more work to find more guides is needed. I also helped organize guide support for Judge Richard Bernstein. He was running the Detroit Marathon and I helped supply vests and a tether for him and his guide to use. (She happened to be a friend of mine from Ford.) This year I will also be helping with another Adventure Camp with OUB, so long as gatherings of this nature are allowed. (It's panned for mid July, and 9 kids are signed up, and we are waiting to hear from the Governor.)



Photo on left: myself, Justice Richard Bernstein, and guide Sara Reichert at the Detroit Marathon expo. On right pictures from the race and at the finish. (see more info about this on our website)

## **2020 Running Blind Adventure Camp is on the way!!!**

We are planning on hosting an Adventure Camp again in 2020. We are expecting 9 campers and a lot of staff members - about 24 people in total. The previous 3 camps Running Blind has participated in have all been wonderfully successful, so here comes number 4! The boating day I always include on Lake Charlevoix has become a popular favorite with the group, and I am proud to sponsor that activity as the final event of the 9 day camp. The camp is really popular with the kids (and the staff members) and the boating day hits the sweet spot for a awesome activity that the kids all love, so it is an excellent collaboration with the two groups to enable an exciting conclusion to the trip that OUB could not offer without the support of Running Blind.

## **Our Guide Pairings**

Unfortunately I have been struggling this year to keep all of the things going on in my life afloat, and at the moment, with no one to support the organizational work required to maintain our guide pairings, this service has slipped into the cracks in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019. I hope to revive this valuable activity later in 2020.

## **Running Blind 2020 Fundraising Campaign** (Link to [RB donation page](#))

I am kicking off a fundraising campaign to support the financial commitment needed to meet our commitment for the upcoming Adventure Camp. **With your help, we could offer more than we do now, and at also create a more stable ability to plan and budget for staff support and activities.** That would really help, and if you can consider supporting our 2020 campaign with even \$30, that would be fantastic and if so I can promise you two things: 1) all the money you donate will be spent wisely helping people that benefit greatly from our support, 2) your name will be listed on our website as a supporter and 3) you feel better about yourself and the world you live in! (The third one is a bonus!) How can you beat all that?! I hope you consider supporting us and I hope we all survive 2020. Thanks, and keep on runnin'!

## **Thanks to our guides and to our donors!** *(All donors are listed on the website.)*

Our running partnerships won't work without both financial support and the committed support of our volunteer guides. Our guides are truly the heart of our organization. Thanks to all of you!

**Hal Wolfe** - Running Blind Director & Founder

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