



DIVEHEART®

THE DIVEHEART STORY

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES



900 Ogden Avenue #274
Downers Grove, IL 60515
www.diveheart.org

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Helping children, veterans and others with disabilities through adaptive scuba opportunities and scuba therapy.

THE MISSION:

Using zero gravity and adaptive scuba, Diveheart strives to build confidence, independence and self esteem in individuals with both physical and cognitive challenges, instilling the can do spirit to help them focus on the possibilities in their lives.

Diveheart, a 501c3 non-profit organization, since 2001, has innovated the premier adaptive scuba training program in the industry, while growing Diveheart Scuba Experience pool programs (DSE's), adaptive scuba adventure trips and adaptive outreach and education opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

Thanks to the wonder of the water column, pools, oceans and lakes of the world become the forgiving weightless environment of inner space. This zero-gravity environment offers perfect buoyancy and balance to those who might struggle on land, providing physical and psychological therapeutic value. It is this can-do spirit that Diveheart seeks to instill in its participants. Over the years, Diveheart has helped launched adaptive scuba programs all over North America and the Caribbean to Malaysia, Australia, China, Israel and the UK. Through donations, grants and strategic partnerships, Diveheart is able to provide services for children, veterans and others regardless of their abilities or their ability to pay. Learn how to lend your support at www.diveheart.org/make-a-donation. To volunteer, schedule a presentation for your organization or group or to participate in a Diveheart pool or open water program e-mail us at info@diveheart.org.

“ Diveheart is an amazing organization with people truly dedicated to improving the lives of the people it serves. We empower people with a can do spirit and greater self-esteem through scuba.”

Sean Barker
Diveheart Board Member



Diveheart Military Wounded (DMW) embodies a mission designed to invigorate the spirit and the imagination of our veterans with disabilities by using adaptive scuba and zero gravity as a tool to:

- Build confidence, independence and a sense of comradere within DMW teams
- Offer a sense of wonder and freedom through the adventure paradigm
- Empower individuals to embrace the can do spirit while operating with others as a cohesive unit

We all need to be valued and have a purpose. DMW's mission-based diving philosophy gives our veteran participants that purpose again, helping them cope with their "New Normal" so they can focus on what they CAN DO instead of what they can't do. For more information e-mail us at DMW@diveheart.org

Diveheart has been a proud CFC member since 2017 which enables current & retired federal employees, including military personnel, to give to the Diveheart Foundation through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #32225).

“ Every time I dive with Diveheart, I find another piece of myself.”

Greg Rodriguez, Marine veteran who sustained a traumatic brain injury



“ If I can Scuba dive, I can do anything...”

Amber Rangel who has quadriplegia from a spinal cord injury

RESEARCH & THERAPY

Diveheart has seen the benefits of scuba therapy since the very start. So early on, we began working with physical and occupational therapists, physicians, scientists, professors, dive professionals and researchers at university medical centers to conduct pioneering research in the area of scuba therapy. These cutting edge collaborations have only scratched the surface of the potential possible research, and yet they have still produced the greatest volume of scuba therapy research in the field.



DEEP POOL FACILITY

Diveheart's deep warm water therapy pool project is designed to allow researchers, physicians, scientists and therapists to have the chance to replicate the physical and psychological benefits of scuba therapy experienced in Open Water diving in a safe confined and controlled warm water environment. In zero gravity, Diveheart will also be able to collaborate with partners to conduct recreational, commercial, military and adaptive dive training as well as environmental, educational and vocational training for people of all abilities. This unique patented facility is designed to be a destination where people with and without disabilities will come from around the world to learn more about adaptive scuba and reap the benefits of scuba therapy. The goal is to have these individuals, return to their communities and help even more people with their new knowledge and training. The potential impact on the lives of individuals with disabilities (one in five people worldwide) and their families is enormous. For more information e-mail us at facility@diveheart.org.

ADAPTIVE SYMPOSIUMS

Diveheart hosted the worlds very first International Adaptive Scuba Symposium in 2009 at the midwest's largest consumer dive show, Our World Underwater. Since then, these adaptive scuba symposiums have attracted researchers, physicians, professors, therapists, adaptive dive professionals and adaptive divers from around the world. Whether you're a scuba instructor, adaptive diver, dive shop owner, dive resort owner, researcher, therapist or recreational diver, you can benefit" by learning more about the current state and the future of adaptive scuba, scuba therapy, the adaptive scuba market, the latest in adaptive scuba training techniques and the latest in scuba therapy research. Learn more at www.diveheart.org/symposium.

REVOLUTIONIZING ADAPTIVE SCUBA

Diveheart has not only trained adaptive divers, instructors and dive buddies from around the world with the industry's most innovative adaptive scuba training materials and tools, it has helped facilitate, grow and promote many new adaptive scuba programs in a wide range of countries. Diveheart has also changed the language from handicapped and disabled scuba to adaptive scuba which is now a recognized norm in the scuba industry. Diveheart has inspired the scuba industry to embrace adaptive scuba and scuba therapy, which is why Diveheart is recognized as the leader in adaptive scuba worldwide. E-mail training@diveheart.org for more information.



“ When I scuba dive, I feel freed from the body in which I otherwise feel trapped.”

Ashley Hoffman, adaptive diver who is legally blind and has cerebral palsy