



**IndependencePlus
Adaptive Sports**

**adaptive
guides**

Mark Andrews

Mark is the *Founder/Executive Director* of **Therapeutic Adventures, Inc. (TA) & IndependencePlus Adaptive Sports (I-AS)**. Mark received his Bachelor's Degree from Michigan State University and a Master's Degree from University of Virginia.

His innovative approach to rehabilitation and special education has positioned **TA & I-AS** as one of our country's premier adaptive outdoor adventure programs and adaptive sports programs. **Therapeutic Adventures, Inc.** has developed a unique and integrative approach to instruction using: our *IndependencePlus Model*, our adaptive *Circle of Courage* model, and our *Adaptive Outdoor Skills Mastery System*. **TA & I-AS's** strong commitment to -- teaching, coaching, guiding and mentoring -- empowers our adaptive students/clients to set goals and to strive for functional independence. Our belief that ALL persons learn and benefit by being provided with opportunities to develop self-awareness, self-confidence, and self-reliance - has provided **TA & I-AS** with a proven framework for success. **Therapeutic Adventures, Inc. (TA) & IndependencePlus Adaptive Sports (I-AS)**. program services are broken down into four areas:

- ❖ *Physical & Developmental Disabilities*
- ❖ *Disabled Military Heroes, Veterans and their Families*
- ❖ *Cancer Survivors*
- ❖ *Chronic Illnesses and Other Special Health Needs*

Mark is also *Founder* of the **Adaptive Outdoor Safety Council**, the **Adaptive Guides - Outdoor Leadership School**, **ADAPTIVE ANGLERS ON THE FLY ~ Fly Fishing Camp**, **Bug Slinger™ Warriors ~ Adaptive Fly Fishing**, **Massanutten Adaptive SnowSports (MASS)**, **SPRING FLY FLING - Fly Fishing & Therapeutic Outdoor Retreat for Women Cancer Survivors**, **OPERATION FREEDOM OUTDOORS - Serving our Disabled Military Heroes**. Mark has devoted more than 30 years of service helping provide greater access to the outdoors for persons with differing abilities. As an Adaptive Outdoor Rehab-Specialist, he has developed a wide variety of special private and group instruction programs, camps and therapeutic retreats (snow sports, water sports and wilderness adventures). Mark's vision, enthusiasm and compassion has served to motivate thousands of individuals, empowering them to make positive lifestyle changes, to discover new found independence and to seek a promise for a better future in the outdoors.

Mark has extensive experience with: Leadership Development, Risk Management, Eco-Stewardship, Volunteer Management & Civic Engagement. He has also served as an *Outdoor Accessibility Consultant*, *Adaptive Equipment Designer*, and *Rehab Life Coach*. Committed to education, as an *Authorpreneur*, Mark authored, directed & produced the first of its kind interactive multi-sensory adventure - [Meet Me At The Mountain](#). The MMATM-Education Project celebrates the abilities of all individuals who seek to overcome life's many challenges. He also authored~ [Reflections On Spiritual Fishing: Adaptive Outdoor Safety Council's - Code of Ethics for Adaptive Outdoor Leaders](#) and the [Adaptive Outdoor Safety Council's - Practice Guidelines for Adaptive Outdoor Recreation Services](#).

He resides in Charlottesville, Virginia with Teresa Andrews, his life partner and beautiful wife.

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