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## PRESS RELEASE

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***Park City's National Ability Center hosts  
Thailand Based Coaches Training Team***

**May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Park City, Utah-** On June 2<sup>nd</sup> the Thailand Based Coaches Training Team (TCTT) will arrive at the National Ability Center in Park City, Utah. The team will spend 18 days in Utah observing and studying the National Ability Center's programs and organizational structure in order to create sustainable community based adaptive recreation programs in both Pattaya and Chang Mai, Thailand. The National Ability Center has been conducting this international adaptive sports exchange with Thailand for nearly a year and has already visited Thailand twice. The exchange is funded by a grant through the *U.S. Department of State Cultural Affairs Division*.

During their stay the TCTT will engage in intensive program training including ropes course initiatives, therapeutic horseback riding, cycling, water-skiing, canoeing, aquatics and team building initiatives. In addition to program training, the TCTT will attend workshops on marketing, fundraising, registration techniques, volunteer cultivation and business etiquette. Their trip will conclude with a five day tour of Utah's spectacular national parks highlighting the accessible trails of Zion and Bryce National Parks.

Lauren Artesani, Ability Center Program Manager, was part of the team which visited Thailand this past February and will serve as the coaches' host during their stay. "The Thai people were so warm and welcoming when we visited Thailand," says Artesani, "I really want to create the same sort of positive experience for them here in Utah." On their final evening, Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Thai coaches will be honored at a banquet hosted by the Ability Center staff and community at the Bronfman Family Recreation Center and Ranch.

The National Ability Center is dedicated to the development of lifetime skills for people of all abilities, ages and cultures through adaptive recreation experiences. As a national role model, the Center is committed to developing new programs through international exchanges. Thailand is just one of five countries with programs initiated by the Ability Center. Other countries include Chile, Italy, Korea and Spain.

For more information on the Thailand exchange, adaptive recreation or the National Ability Center call 435.649.3991 or visit [www.DiscoverNAC.org](http://www.DiscoverNAC.org)