USGA Media Center

LIBERTY CORNER, N.J. (April 20, 2021) – The United States Golf Association (USGA) and the National Alliance for Accessible Golf (National Alliance) have provided a $12,500 grant to the I Got This Foundation, which was founded by Amy Bockerstette in 2019 to promote golf instruction and playing opportunities for people with Down syndrome and other intellectual disabilities.

Through the I Got This Foundation, Bockerstette, a collegiate golfer and advocate for individuals with disabilities, is joining her family in paving the way for intellectually disabled golfers to compete in leagues, join high school teams and earn college athletic scholarships.

This grant will be earmarked toward the I Got This Foundation's newest initiative: a golf academy for people with intellectual disabilities. The I Got This Foundation Golf Academy began on April 6 and is providing instruction and playing opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities from One Step Beyond and Gigi's Playhouse of Phoenix. The academy will run through May 30 at two host golf courses in Arizona: Palmbrook Country Club in Sun City and Paradise Valley Golf Course in Phoenix.

"The efforts of Amy and the I Got This Foundation to create a more inclusive and welcoming game will have a lasting impact," said Mike Davis, CEO of the USGA. "We proudly consider her part of the USGA family and continue to be inspired by her attitude and determination."

Bockerstette is a Special Olympics athlete in golf, swimming and volleyball, an LPGA-USGA Girls Golf alumna, and was recently appointed to a two-year term on the President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition. At the 2019 Waste Management Phoenix Open, representing Special Olympics Arizona, Amy played the 16th hole at TPC Scottsdale with Gary Woodland and playing partner Matt Kuchar during a practice round. As Amy surveyed her 10-foot putt for par, Woodland asked if she needed help lining it up, to which Amy famously replied, "I got this!" The video capturing this moment and her successful putt is the most viewed video in PGA Tour history. Four months later, Woodland won the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach and credited Amy and her attitude as inspiration for his victory.

"The I Got This Foundation is honored to receive this grant from the National Alliance for Accessible Golf," said Lindsey Corbin, Foundation president and Amy's sister. "The I Got This Golf Academy furthers our vision of inclusion for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and, at the same time, grows the game of golf. We are grateful for the support of the National Alliance and the USGA."

"I am so excited that we can help more people learn to play golf," said Amy Bockerstette. "I love it!"

The grant furthers the USGA's mission to champion and advance the game. Since 1997, the USGA has invested more than $33 million in The First Tee, LPGA-USGA Girls Golf, and Drive, Chip & Putt to provide greater access to golf for juniors and cultivate a lifelong passion for the game. In 2018, the USGA announced plans for a championship for players with disabilities, and additional details will be announced in the year ahead.

"The National Alliance is excited to work with the I Got This Foundation to expand opportunities for individuals with disabilities in Arizona to play the game of golf," said Justin Apel, president of the National Alliance. "Participants will become more actively engaged in the social fabric of their community and derive health benefits that improve their quality of life."

Since 2010, the USGA has provided more than $940,000 in grants through the National Alliance to support accessible golf programs, including Els for Autism, The Turn, United Cerebral Palsy Empowered Through Golf, The Children's Course, Freedom Golf Association, No Restrictions Golf Association, Special Olympics, and many more.

For more information about the I Got This Foundation, visit igotthis.foundation.

To view the virtual check presentation ceremony click here.

About the USGA

The USGA is a nonprofit organization that celebrates, serves and advances the game of golf. Founded in 1894, we conduct many of golf's premier professional and amateur championships, including the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open. With The R&A, we govern the sport via a global set of playing, equipment, handicapping and amateur status rules. The USGA campus in Liberty Corner, New Jersey, is home to the Association's Research and Test Center, where science and innovation are fueling a healthy and sustainable game for the future. The campus is also home to the USGA Golf Museum, where we honor the game by curating the world's most comprehensive archive of golf artifacts. To learn more, visit usga.org.

About the National Alliance

The National Alliance for Accessible Golf (National Alliance) is the leader in inclusion — working to ensure the opportunity for all individuals with disabilities to play the game of golf. Formed in the summer of 2001, the National Alliance is represented by major golf, recreation and therapeutic organizations in the United States; organizations that provide services for people with disabilities; and others who advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities into society. Through GAIN™ (Golf: Accessible and Inclusive Networks) and other programs, the National Alliance promotes inclusion and awareness to the golf industry, golf instructors, and the public. For more information about National Alliance programs, please visit www.accessgolf.org.

About the I Got This Foundation

The I Got This Foundation has a mission to provide golf instruction and playing opportunities for people with Down syndrome and other intellectual and developmental disabilities. I Got This was launched by Amy Bockerstette and her family on her twenty-first birthday in 2019. Amy is a student-athlete at Paradise Valley Community College in Phoenix, Ariz., where she plays golf on a full scholarship and studies dance. She is the first person with Down syndrome to receive a collegiate athletic scholarship. For more information about the I Got This Foundation, visit igotthis.foundation

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