

# Jimmie Heuga Nomination

## *Dr. John Gray*

Nominated by:  
**Sigrid Noack**  
**Gordon Cardona**



*John Gray* has been a volunteer instructor with *The Unrecables* since 2010. He has been a primary instructor on many occasions and otherwise assists different primary instructors with student lessons. John's background as a physical therapist has been very helpful in dealing with students who have a wide variety of physical disabilities due to stroke, head injury, spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy, vision impairment, and others. On numerous occasions, he has arranged carpools and lodging for students and instructors traveling from San Diego to Mammoth. He has been on the Board of Directors since 2015 and continues to promote The Unrecables and recruit new students and new instructors through his network of professional contacts as a physical therapist. Last year, John volunteered as a bid-runner for the *FWSA Silent Auction* in San Diego and he attended the 2016 FWSA Convention as the *Los Angeles Council's Man of the Year*.

Dr. Gray started volunteering his physical therapy skills at *Special Olympics* events in San Diego beginning in 2007. In 2009, he volunteered his skills as a physical therapist at the *World Winter* games in Boise, Idaho. In 2014 he helped coach the Vista women's basketball team at the *USA Summer Games* in Princeton, New Jersey and in 2018 he helped coach the San Diego athletics team at the USA Summer Games in Seattle, Washington. He has been coaching Special Olympics athletes year-round in San Diego since 2011. He has been the *head coach* for athletics, bocce ball and soccer for the Poway Panthers (San Diego) since 2017.

In addition, Dr. Gray is President and Co-Founder of Physical Therapy For All (*PTFORALL*). He has been president of PTFORALL since its inception in November of 2012. PTFORALL is a non-profit organization that funds, in full, physical therapy visits for individuals with a medical need for physical rehabilitation who do not have medical insurance or the financial ability to pay for the service themselves. PTFORALL, up until the start of the pandemic, would also collect, repair, and distribute used rehabilitation equipment (*manual wheelchairs, motorized wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, braces, hospital beds, etc*) to individuals who are unable to purchase these items for themselves. To date they have donated close to 2,000 items of rehabilitation equipment including over 300 manual wheelchairs, 600 walkers, and 80 hospital beds. Dr. John Gray is very deserving of the *Jimmie Heuga Award*.