

To the Flyin' Ryan Scholarship Committee,

I am writing to recommend Candice Caesar for your Adventure Scholarship. I am a Recreation Therapist with the VA Hospital.

I have had the privilege of knowing Candice since 2019, when we first connected at the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. From the very beginning, I was struck by her resilience and deep passion for sport. At that time, she had already completed more than 15 marathons, 50 half marathons, and 14 triathlons across the continental United States and Canada, which speaks to her exceptional dedication and endurance.

Over the years, I have witnessed Candice's unwavering focus, determination, and commitment to growth, both as an athlete and as an individual. She consistently follows through on what she starts and approaches her goals with energy, discipline, and perseverance. Equally remarkable are her kindness, humor, and genuine humanity. Candice is an Army Veteran and a para athlete whose pursuits include archery, fencing, rock climbing, marathon running, skiing, and sled hockey.

What makes Candice's journey truly exceptional is that she has built this life after sustaining a severe spinal cord injury and a traumatic brain injury while serving in the Army at the age of 26. Despite being told she would never walk again, she defied expectations through faith, perseverance, and relentless effort. She faced these challenges with courage, leaned into difficulty, and used every setback as an opportunity to grow stronger. She not only regained mobility but also rose to elite levels in archery, earning a place on Team USA and winning gold and bronze medals at the 2022 Para Pan American Championships and the 2023 Para Pan American Games.

Candice lives out values that strongly reflect the spirit of the Flyin' Ryan Scholarship. She leads with integrity, takes ownership of her journey, and remains committed even when faced with significant obstacles. She actively seeks new experiences and embraces adventure as a way to continue learning and growing. Just as importantly, she serves others with compassion and generosity, uplifting those around her and creating a positive and encouraging environment wherever she goes.

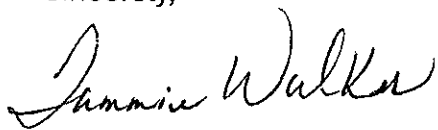
Candice does not currently receive funding from the USOPC or USA Archery, and this scholarship would provide critical support for her continued success. It would enable her to self-fund participation in Stage 4 of the Para Archery Series in Santiago, Chile. Travel alone is estimated at \$1,500, with an additional \$2,000 for registration, lodging, meals, and

ground transportation. This financial assistance would directly impact her ability to compete on the international stage and continue progressing toward her goal of competing in the 2028 Paralympic Games.

Candice embodies resilience, perseverance, integrity, and a true spirit of adventure. I recommend her without hesitation and am confident she will continue to inspire others while pursuing excellence and giving back along the way.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammie Walker". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Tammie Walker, CTRS, TRS/TXC, CARSS