



Special Olympics: An Overview

Special Olympics is a global organization that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sport, everyday around the world. Through programming in sports, health, education and community building, Special Olympics is changing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities solving the global injustice, isolation, intolerance and inactivity they face. Special Olympics is providing opportunities for more than 4 million athletes, 1 million volunteers and millions more people worldwide through 220 Accredited Special Olympics Programs in more than 170 countries.

OUR MISSION

Provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

OUR REACH

- 4.2 million athletes
- 1 million coaches and volunteers
- More than 70,000 competitions each year
- More than 30 Olympic-type sports
- Programs in more than 170 countries
- Dynamic sports and corporate partnerships

OUR SOLUTION

- **REAL SPORTS:** Deliver, high-quality training and competition in an inclusive culture that stresses athletic excellence, rewards determination, emphasizes health and celebrates personal achievement.
- **ATHLETE HEALTH:** Promote the overall well-being of people with intellectual disabilities via programs that ensure ongoing access to quality, community-based healthcare services, highlighted by free health screenings at Special Olympics' competitions, games and other venues.
- **TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION:** Equip young people and adult influencers with effective tools and training to create sports, classroom and community actions that produce friendships and acceptance, driving positive attitude and behavioral change.
- **BUILD COMMUNITIES:** Marshal resources, implement diverse programming and act as a convening power of stakeholders to drive positive attitudinal and behavioral change toward people with intellectual disabilities in communities worldwide, strengthening the fabric of society.