



May 2013

Dear Friends,

Champions rejoice! You are here today at these Summer Games as an athlete, family member, volunteer, coach, official, sponsor, or a fan. Together, you celebrate achievement and together you join the Dignity Revolution.

For far too long, people with intellectual disabilities have faced inactivity, intolerance, isolation, and injustice. These Games are more than a sports competition, but a moment that shows the community around you that people with intellectual disabilities are talented and gifted and are to be celebrated. It is a time where we acknowledge that through Special Olympics, achieving a personal best is true success. These Games are an opportunity for Special Olympics athletes to declare, "I am a champion and I will be included!"

Every day around the world we create opportunities of acceptance and inclusion through our sports, health, education, and community building programs where we strive to build communities full of joy and wellness, instilling in young people the benefits of playing unified. Today and throughout these Games, enjoy the moments of accomplishment, but consider how you can create more opportunities of accomplishment every day for our athletes.

You are a revolutionary! Each and every one of you can be a champion for acceptance and inclusion. When the Games have closed, I urge you to take back to your schools, homes, workplace, clubs, and to your friends the stories of courage, determination, and inspiration that you witnessed first-hand, and encourage everyone to join you in the Dignity Revolution.

Now, let the Games begin!

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy P. Shriver". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'T'.

Timothy P. Shriver, Ph.D.
Chairman & CEO