

EKS DAY 2011 HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS



Included in this document are several Global Program photographs and summaries, highlighting the various events, sporting competitions and educational programs which took place during their respective 2011 EKS Day celebrations. Please use this document as a tool when developing your respective Program's 2012 EKS Day celebration activities. Each of the included events and or activities was classified in one of four following categories: Community, Sports, Education or Health. We are asking that each Program, when coordinating its EKS Day celebration, to classify each event and or activity as such.

Thailand

Event Type: Sports



Special Olympics Thailand organized a "Bocce Training Day Camp" in Pattani's Prince of Songkhla University to introduce bocce, a new sport, to athletes in the 3 southernmost provinces. Regardless of the rain and on-going unrest, 35 athletes accompanied by their parents, enjoyed a day of learning new sport. Volunteer coaches provided teaching and guidance, and the session ended with a fun bocce competition.

In addition to the competition, the Program engaged the local community by hosting a Global Youth Summit Leaders event during the life and legacy of Eunice Kennedy Shriver was highlighted.

Serbia

Event Type: Sports



About 150 youth came out for EKS Day in Serbia, to participate in an innovative volleyball project featuring Olympic gold medalist and Serbian volleyball great, Vladimir Vanja Grbic. The children came from three schools and six Special Olympics clubs from Serbia – all hoping for a few insider sports tips from Mr. Grbic. For his part, the volleyball star said he was impressed by our athletes' talents and the great potential for skillful new volleyball players in the future.

Monaco

Event Type: Community



Special Olympics Global Ambassador H.S.H. Princess Charlene of Monaco hosted Special Olympics athletes for a special luncheon aboard the yacht "The World" to celebrate EKS Day. A member of the International Board of Directors, H.S.H. Princess Charlene of Monaco refers to Special Olympics as "a movement that has always been close to my heart." On EKS Day and every day, she says we must continue Eunice Kennedy Shriver's commitment to "improve and transform the lives of the 200 million people worldwide with intellectual disabilities who still live with diminished opportunities and social disrespect."

Alaska

Event Type: Sports



Special Olympics Alaska celebrated EKS Day in 10 Alaskan Communities. In Anchorage, the State Program hosted various sports events and a Young Athlete's Program presentation. Among the many athletes, friends and family who participated were Alaskan governmental officials, Senator Lisa Murkowski and former Governor, Bill Sheffield.

Texas

Event Type: Sports and Education



Special Olympics Texas celebrated EKS Day with a series of events and programs including, Texas Governor, Rick Perry signing the EKS Day Proclamation, Project Unify *Meet in the Middle* Eunice Kennedy Shrive education series events and several sports competitions. To promote awareness about EKS Day and the various events, Special Olympics Texas also developed a dedicated Facebook page, Twitter page and a series of email blasts.

Pakistan

Event Type: Community



In the city of Lahore, one of the area's leading local banks, Faysal Bank, in honor of EKS Day, hosted several athletes of the National Program to participate in the opening ceremony of the T20 cricket tournament.

Also in the city of Karachi, the National Program hosted a dinner with local athletes and new youth activists in honor of Eunice Kennedy Shriver. Additionally, the Program partnered with local media to air various 30 second EKS highlights through-out the country on Sept. 24.

Jordan

Event Type: Sports and Community



Special Olympics Jordan celebrated EKS day by organizing a Unified® Sports day and Global Youth Summit at the Jordan Sport Federation for the disabled in Amman. During the event, which drew 15 coaches and teachers, along with 100 youth from both area schools and the National Special Olympics Program, both games of basketball and soccer were played.

Athletic participants were presented with certificates by the SO Jordan National Director, Dr. Ali Al Shawahin. All participants cheered the achievements of the late Special Olympics founder, Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

Tunisia

Event Type: Community



SO Tunisia celebrated EKS Day with athletes, families and supporters of the Program at the Al Waleed Center. The event was opened by Special Olympics Tunisia's Chairman, Toufic El Sherif, who highlighted Mrs. Shriver achievements. This was followed by a session which focused on educating attendees about intellectual disabilities as they relate to health, education and society. The celebration also featured both a bocce demonstration and the recognition of the medalists who competed during the Special Olympics Summer World Games 2011 in Athens.

Lebanon

Event Type: Sports



SO Lebanon honored the memory of Eunice Kennedy Shriver during a game of Unified Basketball. This event was hosted in partnership with Saidon Welfare Association. Following the EKS Day activities, several participants were asked to reflect upon their experience. All of the participants that shared his or her reflection expressed how excited he or she was to have taken part in this celebration.

Egypt

Event Type: Sports



SO Egypt was joined by family, friends and community supporters in celebration of EKS Day at the Heliopolis Club. Attendees had the opportunity to play both Unified Basketball and Unified Football. In addition, athletes were training on various foundational skills such as running and jumping.

South Africa

Event Type: Health and Sports



In the town of Empangeni, Special Olympics South Africa honored the legacy of both Eunice Kennedy Shriver and R. Sargent Shriver, as the Program, in partnership with Peace Corps, hosted a series of Healthy Athletes screenings. Above, Peace Corps volunteer Gail Pohlman talks with a Special Olympics athlete about dental hygiene. In between screening stations, volunteers also hosted a football skills clinic.

In addition, former U.S Soccer Team Champion, Lorrie Fair, hosted several athletes from Special Olympics South Africa during a soccer clinic.

Namibia

Event Type: Sports and Community



Special Olympics Namibia celebrated EKS Day during its dedication of the Katutura Football for Hope Centre to the memory of Eunice Kennedy Shriver. In addition, the Program also honored Mrs. Shriver's memory during its three-day Unified Football Tournament.

Niger

Event Type: Sports and Education



SO Niger celebrated EKS Day with a series of activities following the event's Opening Ceremony, which was chaired by the Program's National Director. The activities include a boys and girls short distance run, a 7-A-Side Unified Football match, an athlete award presentation and a guided tour of the Boubou Hama National Museum of Niamey. During the celebration SO Niger was joined by several governmental officials, including the Minister of Sports and many Program supporters.

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Mauritius

Event Type: Community



SO Mauritius in collaboration with its Young Athlete activities recognized the efforts and achievements of the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver in celebration of EKS Day. During the event, the Program showcased photographs from past events and also discussed the benefits of the Special Olympics movement.

SO Côte d'Ivoire

Event Type: Sports



SO Côte d'Ivoire celebrated EKS Day during a 16km hike which was sponsored by the "HHH Abidjan". The hike which took place in Anyama, gathered over 300 participants including SO Athletes, family members, governmental officials and journalists. Prior to the start of the race, the audience was told about both the Special Olympics mission and life of Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

Hong Kong

Event Type: Sports and Community



Athletes and family leaders gathered in Hong Kong for a Family Forum as part of Eunice Kennedy Shriver Day. The EKS Day celebrations also featured a race that included Special Olympics athletes and a runner who took part in the Law Enforcement Torch Run final leg in Athens during the Special Olympics Summer World Games 2011.

China

Event Type: Community and Health



The life and legacy of the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver was honored during several Special Olympics China EKS Day events, including: a Family Support Network training, a football training camp, a Youth Summit, a series Healthy Athletes screenings, a Youth Activation Demonstration, a Family Forum and a Law Enforcement Torch Run fundraiser.

During an EKS Day Press Conference held in Beijing, Chinese Television personality and entrepreneur, Yang Lan was announced as a Special Olympics Global Ambassador.

China Taipei (Taiwan)



The Program in Chinese Taipei celebrated EKS Day with several activities including an Opening Ceremony, a Football Camp with an awards presentation and a Healthy Athletes clinic.

Brazil

Event Type: Community



Olympic and World Champion beach volleyball player Adriana Behar was announced as a Sports Ambassador for Special Olympics Brazil as part of the National Program's EKS Day celebration. Ms. Behar will help lead a volleyball development program for Special Olympics athletes throughout Brazil.

Bharat (India)

Event Type: Sports, Community and Education



In India, more than 600,000 individuals, including athletes, coaches, family members and Program supporters participated in EKS Day festivities. The events which were held in many of the country's districts included several sports competitions, forums, carnivals, Young Athlete activities and educational programs. The overwhelming involvement drew governmental officials and local schools to participate.

Costa Rica

Event Type: Sports

Special Olympics Costa Rica celebrated EKS Day during its *Te Reto a hacer deporte* (translation- *I invite you to practice sports*) event. The annual event gathers athletes, celebrities and politicians to engage in a series of unified play.

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Samoa

Event Type: Sports



As Special Olympics Samoa is one of the organization's newest Programs, Special Olympics Samoa celebrated EKS Day during the launch of its Football Program. The event which included a Unified Football Game, involved both the country's National Team and the Football Federation of Samoa.

Malaysia

Event Type: Sports



Special Olympics Malaysia hosted the ASEAN 5+1 Five-a-Side Football Tournament in honor of EKS Day. The tournament featured teams from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Singapore.

Romania

Event Type: Sports



In partnership with the National University of Physical Education in Bucharest, Special Olympics Romania hosted a series of Sports Demonstrations which included football, basketball, gymnastics and Zumba aerobics.

Myanmar

Event Type: Sports



In honor of EKS Day, Special Olympics Myanmar hosted a Young Athletes and Family Day with track and field competitions and football clinics. The event involved many of the Program's supporters, board members and volunteers.

Jamaica

Event Type: Sports



In celebration of EKS Day Special Olympics Jamaica athletes, friends and supporters joined together for a "day of fun" in Kingston, Jamaica, thanks to special grounds donated by the Jamaican government. Activities included bocce and a series of sports demonstrations featuring athletes who are aiming to attend the 2013 World Winter Games.

Mexico

Event Type: Sports and Community



Special Olympics Mexico hosted an EKS Day celebration which features a series of sports demonstrations, a Eunice Kennedy Shriver video presentation and an art exhibition. Special Olympics President, Brady Lum participated in the Program's celebration. Several national media organizations were present to cover the event.

Turkey

Event Type: Sports



Special Olympics Turkey celebrated EKS Day with an aquatics competition featuring 73 athletes. During the event the legacy of Eunice Kennedy Shriver was honored with various event signage.

Haiti

Event Type: Sports



Special Olympics Haiti celebrated EKS Day during its annual Camp Shriver activities. The event features various sporting events including, basketball, bocce, football and table tennis. During the event, many of Eunice Kennedy Shriver's accomplishments and efforts were highlighted.