



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### WHAT WE DO:

Healthy Athletes is a Special Olympics program that provides free health examinations in a fun, welcoming environment that removes the anxiety and trepidation people with intellectual disabilities often experience when faced with a visit to a medical professional. Our impact on the health and well-being of Special Olympics athletes around the world is great, in some cases saving lives by discovering unknown health issues or providing health care that otherwise would not be available.

We not only serve these athletes but also train health care professionals who then go back to their practices with increased knowledge of and compassion for people with intellectual disabilities.

### Examinations are offered in seven different health areas:



### IMPORTANCE AND IMPACT:

Despite a mistaken belief that people with intellectual disabilities receive the same or better health care than others, they typically receive sub-standard care or virtually no health care at all.

Health examinations have found that Special Olympics athletes are at increased risk of secondary health issues:

- 48%** have at least one kind of skin or nail condition
- 37%** have obvious, untreated tooth decay
- 26%** fail hearing tests
- 23%** have low bone density
- 16%** have an eye disease

Largest global public health organization specifically for people with intellectual disabilities

Provided more than 1.4 million examinations to Special Olympics athletes worldwide

Trained more than 120,000 health care professionals in the specific health care concerns of people with intellectual disabilities

Events in more than 125 countries

Given away more than 100,000 pairs of eyeglasses free of charge

Healthy Athletes Software (HAS) is the largest database of health data for people with intellectual disabilities in existence

Contributed to establishment of the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry and the signing of the Special Olympics Sports and Empowerment Act of 2004

(Data through 12/31/2013)