

Be sure to register your contact information with Program leaders to be informed of the sports calendar, family activities and additional community events that you can be part of. Keep in contact with family leaders and let us know what you are interested in, too.

Together we will make a difference.

Visit our website for access to resources and more information at:

www.specialolympics.org

Family Contact Information

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

Athlete Name:

Athlete Birthdate:
mm dd yyyy



>>>
 Let me win.
 But if I cannot
 win, **let me brave**
 in the attempt.

Special Olympics Athlete Oath



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Welcome Families!

Welcome to Special Olympics

Our Mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic completion for children and adults with intellectual disabilities to provide continuing opportunities for athletes to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in sharing of gifts with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

Special Olympics is a volunteer organization with many, many opportunities to get involved. Families are our most powerful and valuable natural resource.

- It is not only parents who get involved, but siblings and extended family members do, too. Youth are helping us increase awareness through their social media contacts and school involvement. Grandparents, aunts, siblings, cousins and other extended family members share in getting athletes to training, participating in fundraising campaigns and promoting Special Olympics in the community.
- There are many opportunities to share experiences and knowledge with others who understand. Social events, family forums, health screenings, community meetings and special events are just a few examples of what is offered throughout the year.

We invite you to share your ideas and be part of the community.



We are proud that families are one of the largest groups of volunteers who support our sports program. For example, in the United States **42%** of families surveyed reported serving as coaches and in Peru **40%** reported playing sports with our athletes as a Unified partner. Families are also leading the effort to expand opportunities for young children under age 8 years to join the Young Athletes program.

Parents and caregivers support and encouragement helps athletes develop healthy lifestyles, physical fitness, confidence and skills to compete. We invite you to witness the power of sports and get involved in Special Olympics. When you come to our events and cheer for athletes, you will feel pride and joy as they share their gifts with you.



Everyone in the programme accepts each other without question. **Everyone works as a team supporting each other.**

-Mother from Great Britain

