### Clinical Director Invitation Template - FUNfitness Program

 

Dear INSERT NAME/ORGANIZATION

Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing year-round training and competitions to more than 4.5 million athletes in 170 countries. Special Olympics competitions are held every day, all around the world—including local, national and regional competitions, adding up to more than 90,000 events a year. Special Olympics is the largest global public health organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual disabilities. The Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Program offers health screenings in eight areas: Fit Feet-Podiatry, FUNfitness- Physical Therapy, Health Promotion- Better Health, Nutrition and Well-Being, Healthy Hearing- Audiology, MedFest - Sports Physical Exams, Opening Eyes – Vision, Special Smiles- Dentistry and Strong Minds – Emotional Health

FUNfitness is a physical therapy event that addresses the ongoing health needs of Special Olympics athletes. FUNfitness provides athletes the opportunity to be screened for flexibility, functional strength, balance, and aerobic fitness. During these screenings, physical therapists, related health professionals, and students offer athletes expert guidance and exercise recommendations to prevent and reduce the risk of injury and to improve the athletes’ optimal function not only in sports training and competition but everyday life.

Special Olympics is reaching out to Physical Therapists/Physiotherapists to help fill our need as a Special Olympics FUN Fitness Clinical Director. As a Fit Feet Clinical Director you will join other health professionals volunteering in the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Program. To learn more about Special Olympics FUNFitness, please visit [www.specialolympics.org/funfitness](http://www.specialolympics.org/funfitness)

Special Olympics is recruiting FUNfitness Clinical Directors for several state and country programs. Please visit <https://www.specialolympics.org/get-involved/healthy-athletes> or reach out to [funfitness@specialolympics.org](mailto:funfitness@specialolympics.org) to see how you can join our team and make a difference in a Special Olympics athlete’s life.

**Clinical Director Invitation Template - Healthy Athletes Program**

Dear INSERT NAME/ORGANIZATION

Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing year-round training and competitions to more than 4.5 million athletes in 170 countries. Special Olympics competitions are held every day, all around the world—including local, national and regional competitions, adding up to more than 90,000 events a year. Special Olympics, as the largest global public health organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual disabilities, needs volunteer health care professionals to serve as Clinical Directors for its Healthy Athletes program. The specialized backgrounds and expertise you offer can ensure that the Healthy Athletes program helps change the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

Officially launched in 1997, Healthy Athletes organizes its health events in a welcoming, fun environment. Its events educate athletes on healthy lifestyle choices and identify problems that may need additional follow-up. There are seven disciplines in Healthy Athletes. Information and resources are available for each on the Special Olympics website.



[**Fit Feet**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Fit_Feet.aspx) offers podiatric screenings to evaluate ankles, feet, lower extremity biomechanics, and proper shoe and sock gear to participating athletes.

[**FUNFitness**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/FUNFitness.aspx) is the physical therapy component of Healthy Athletes. Designed to assess and improve an athlete’s flexibility, functional strength, aerobic capacity and balance. These screenings also educate participants, families and coaches.

[**Health Promotion**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Health_Promotion.aspx) uses health screenings, interactive educational tools and displays, motivational literature and demonstrations to heighten the awareness of athletes, reinforcing the need to improve and maintain an enhanced level of wellness and self-care. It also provides screening for BMI, blood pressure, and bone density.

[**Healthy Hearing**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Healthy_Hearing.aspx) offers a free hearing screening designed to ensure proper audiology care for Special Olympics athletes.

[**MedFest**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/MedFest.aspx) offers a sports physical exam for athletes, needed prior to participating in Special Olympics sports programming.

[**Opening Eyes**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Opening_Eyes.aspx) The Special Olympics-Lions Clubs International Opening Eyes program provides a vision and eye health screening in partnership with the Lions Clubs International Foundation. Led by volunteer vision care professionals, Opening Eyes offers prescription eyewear, sunglasses, and sports goggles to Special Olympics athletes.

[**Special Smiles**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Special_Smiles.aspx) provides comprehensive oral health care information, including free dental screenings and instruction on correct brushing and flossing techniques to participating Special Olympics athletes. This also includes issuing preventative supplies like toothpaste and toothbrushes and fluoride varnish.

To learn more about Special Olympics Healthy Athletes, please visit   
<http://www.specialolympics.org/healthy_athletes.aspx?source=navbar>.

Please accept our invitation to empower our athletes by promoting healthy behaviors and lifestyles and serving as a Clinical Director. As one Healthy Athlete volunteer recently said, "The athletes thank me for what I do for them, but it is really the athletes who deserve my thanks for what they do for me.”

Special Olympics is recruiting for Clinical Directors in all disciplines for several state and country Programs. Please contact your local Special Olympics Program to discuss how you can join the Healthy Athletes team and make a difference in a Special Olympics athlete’s life. A list of local Programs is available at: <http://www.specialolympics.org/program_locator.aspx>

**Volunteer Recruitment Letter – Healthy Athletes**

Join us on <EVENT DATE AND TIME> and Volunteer with the Special Olympics <name of program> Healthy Athletes Program

Special Olympics is currently recruiting volunteers for upcoming health screening events in several health areas. We hope that you can contribute your time and skills to the movement and help change the lives of people with intellectual disabilities in your community through our Healthy Athletes Program.

Special Olympics is the world's largest sports organization for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, providing year-round training and competitions to more than 4.5 million athletes in 170 countries. Special Olympics competitions are held every day, all around the world—including local, national and regional competitions, adding up to more than 94,000 events a year.

Special Olympics, is also the largest global public health organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual disabilities. The Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Program offers health screenings in seven health disciplines:



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[**FUNFitness**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/FUNFitness.aspx) is the physical therapy component of Healthy Athletes. Designed to assess and improve an athlete’s flexibility, functional strength, aerobic capacity and balance. These screenings also educate participants, families and coaches about fitness and how to improve each component of fitness.

[**Health Promotion**](file:///C:\Users\bgresham\Dropbox%20(Specialolympics.org)\cboseman\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\BVT1K1IS\Healthy%20Hearing)  uses health screenings in BMI, blood pressure, and bone density, interactive educational tools and displays, motivational literature and demonstrations to heighten the awareness of athletes, reinforcing the need to improve and maintain an enhanced level of wellness and self-care.

[**Healthy Hearing**](http://resources.specialolympics.org/Topics/Healthy_Athletes/Disciplines/Healthy_Hearing.aspx) offers a free hearing screening designed to ensure proper audiology care for Special Olympics athletes.

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Additional information and resources are available for each health discipline on the Special Olympics website <http://www.specialolympics.org/healthy_athletes.aspx>

We would like to invite volunteers with clinical and public health backgrounds, as well as all other interested volunteers who may not have clinical or health experience..

The opportunity to volunteer with Special Olympics is truly a rewarding one: As one Healthy Athletes volunteer recently said, "The athletes thank me for what I do for them, but it is really the athletes who deserve my thanks for what they do for me!”

If you are interested in volunteering with the Special Olympics Healthy Athlete team and learning more about the specific disciplines and upcoming volunteer opportunities, Please contact the following individual at your local program by <DATE>:

<SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM>

<HEALTHY ATHLETES COORDINATOR/EVENT COORDINATOR>

<EMAIL ADDRESS/PHONE NUMBER>