

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



**Special
Olympics**





Each step of the way has enriched my life, making me more outgoing, confident, and dedicated to the cause that binds us all—creating a more accepting and unified world through the spirit of sports.



Qiang Xudong
Special Olympics China athlete

MESSAGE FROM AN ATHLETE LEADER

MY JOURNEY WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Discovering My Path in Special Olympics

In 2016, I began my adventure with Special Olympics, a journey that started with tentative steps but soon became a defining part of my life. Our school set aside Monday to Wednesday afternoons for Special Olympics training, where I was initially introduced to bocce and table tennis. It wasn't long before my coach, recognizing my physical attributes and athletic potential, steered me towards specializing in bocce. This switch paid off greatly, as I went on to achieve remarkable results at the provincial competitions. With the rising popularity of ice and snow sports, floor hockey emerged as a new challenge within Special Olympics, emphasizing the importance of teamwork and leadership. Seizing the opportunity, I joined our school's floor hockey team, eventually leading us to victory in the nation's first competition for individuals with disabilities in this sport, securing the top spot in the intellectual disability category.

Embracing Leadership and Confidence

The year 2021 marked a significant milestone as I assumed the role of a Special Olympics athlete leader during the Special Olympics China National Youth Leadership Summit in Baoji, Shaanxi. This experience was nothing short of transformative, providing a platform for leaders from across the nation to share their inspiring stories and strategies for success. Facing the media for the first time was daunting; the fear of misspeaking loomed large. However, diligent practice and preparation at home, focusing on my speech and expressions, equipped me to deliver a successful interview. This pivotal moment helped me conquer self-doubt, propelling me into a more confident and visible role within the Special Olympics community. Following this, my potential was recognized by Special Olympics East Asia, leading to my growth as a regional athlete leader.

Achieving Unity and Pride at the Summit

The 2023 Special Olympics Global Youth Leadership Summit at the World Games in Berlin brought together Special Olympics youth leaders with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities, offering an unparalleled opportunity for growth and learning. At the summit, I absorbed invaluable lessons on leadership within Special Olympics, from enhancing team dynamics during training sessions to effectively communicating our message during promotional activities. Embracing the core values of Special Olympics, I advocated for environmental responsibility, waste reduction, and conservation efforts.

The summit experience was invaluable, not just for the wealth of knowledge gained but for the connections made with like-minded individuals. The diverse interactions, the shared experiences, and the collective passion for the Special Olympics mission further solidified my confidence and resolve. This international platform not only highlighted the universal spirit of Special Olympics but also underscored my personal growth from a hesitant participant to a global youth leader, advocating for inclusion, environmental responsibility, and the transformative power of sports.

From the local training grounds of my school to the global stage in Berlin, my journey with Special Olympics has been a testament to the power of perseverance, leadership, and the collective effort to foster an inclusive world. Each step of the way has enriched my life, making me more outgoing, confident, and dedicated to the cause that binds us all—creating a more accepting and unified world through the spirit of sports.

Qiang Xudong

强旭东

Special Olympics China athlete
since age 11





MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

WE'RE BACK: AND WE ARE CHANGING THE WORLD

We're back, baby. Back in a big way. Last year the world started turning again, away from the pandemic shadows and into the light and Special Olympics athletes were at the center of the action. We're back!

We felt the glow on a warm June night in Berlin. Fifty-thousand spectators and nearly 7,000 athletes filled the Olympic Stadium, the Olympiastadion, for the Opening Ceremony of the 2023 World Games. Our first World Games since COVID, and the biggest multi-sport event in Germany since the Munich Olympics in 1972.

With ESPN airing the celebration live around the planet, athletes from Special Olympics' seven global regions relayed the Flame of Hope into the arena.

At her turn, Sana Kapri, from Pakistan, a slender 21-year-old in a green track suit, did something unexpected. She seized the torch — and hit the gas, sprinting along the oval as if she were chasing something, maybe a dream, some quicksilver slippery thing that she was determined to catch before it disappeared.

With exuberance and a spirit of improvisation, and sheer joy, Sana ran. She ran as fast and as far as she could, surely giving some TV producers palpitations before finally yielding the flame. Soon it was delivered to the cauldron and our Games were ablaze.

Sana had traveled almost impossibly far to get to Berlin. She was one of three athletes featured in last year's award-winning documentary "As Far as They Can Run" by Tanaz Eshaghian—a film that made the short list for Best Documentary Short Film for the 2023 Academy Awards. The movie revealed the isolation and pain that people with intellectual disabilities endure when poor families are forced to make cruel choices between caring for a child and earning a living. It also showed the liberating power of loving attention and inclusion — the good that happens when young people who have been waiting for opportunity can finally seize it. Their determination ignites the spark that can change a life, a family, a village, a country and, in time, the world.

Change the world?

Let no one tell you the world can't change. It does. We saw it. Our athletes lived it. Those 7,000 who earned a place for themselves in Berlin gave that city an entirely new Olympic story. Their week of ferocious competition now stands in history beside the dark memory of 1936. For nearly nine decades, the words "Berlin Olympics" summoned an ideology of hatred, bigotry, exclusion and violence. Until June 2023. Now they also recall a joyous vision of what the world can and must become — when walls of division come tumbling down.

Berlin was almost too perfectly symbolic a city for our message of radical inclusion. We were there during the 60th anniversary of U.S. President John F. Kennedy's 1963 speech deploring the Wall that once divided Berlin into zones of oppression and freedom.

That Wall fell long ago, along with the regime that built it. But our athletes knew there are walls that remain, walls we cannot see. Walls of hatred and contempt are standing all around us, in every city, village, country and continent, and in too many human hearts.

That is the wall-toppling work that Special Olympics has been strengthening and re-energizing around the world.





In Berlin we unveiled our Global Leadership Coalition for Inclusion, a world-leading partnership and policy platform that seeks to achieve Special Olympics' goals of inclusion in and through the schools.

The Coalition represents the next step in transforming years of exhortation and advocacy into practical and radical changes in the classroom, community and society. It unites distinguished leaders in sport, education and child welfare — officials from government and civil society who recognize the power of social inclusion in upholding the rights of marginalized youth and developing thriving societies. Many of them have partnered with Special Olympics to support our time-tested Unified Champion Schools.

The Coalition exists to tear down walls of indifference and neglect with positive attitudes and actions, including a challenge to governments worldwide to allocate at least 3 percent of their education budget to children with special needs, to match the percentage of students with intellectual and developmental disabilities ready and hungry to go to school.

The Coalition aims to create 150,000 "Unified Schools," where students of all abilities play inclusive sports and reap the benefits of peer-to-peer mentoring. It seeks to bring 2 million young people with and without intellectual disabilities into Special Olympics programs at schools around the world. And it is working to scale Special Olympics inclusive education through sports programming to 180 nations.

These are admittedly ambitious goals, and you haven't heard the last of this from us. In our organization's 56th year, we remain on a path that is steep and full of struggle. At the 2011 World Games in Athens, Greece, we explained it this way:

"Our goal is simple: a world where there is no 'us' or 'them.' In the dignity revolution, there is only us. A world where each one of us is called by name, beautiful, sacred, able. A world where there are a million different abilities but no disabilities. That's our dignity revolution. We'll lead it by playing unified and by living unified."

All of us who were lucky enough to have witnessed the 2023 World Games brought home a warm, glowing memory of that miracle in Berlin. But many of our athletes returned to lives of difficulty and loneliness. Daunting challenges are all around. We hesitate to declare COVID done and dusted, for the disease is still able to harm vulnerable populations, and ours is among the most vulnerable of all.

And our work against hatred and exclusion never ends and never gets easy. We have all been appalled by ongoing eruptions of violence and hatred, of resurgent anti-Semitism and anti-Muslim rage, of the toll of warfare, disease, hunger, and political and economic instability. Anguished humanity cries out for understanding and solace, whether in the Middle East, in Ukraine, in Africa and Latin America or within the United States.

To all these crises, our answer remains steadfast. We seek a revolution, but a peaceful, loving one. A revolution of human dignity.

Timothy Shriver
Chairman

Mary Davis
Chief Executive Officer





**OUR IMPACT
IN 2023**



SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES BERLIN 2023

2023 marked a momentous year, as the Special Olympics movement's flagship event – the World Games – were held for the first time in four years. **The 2023 Special Olympics World Games took place from 17–25 June in Berlin, Germany, welcoming nearly 6,500 athletes and Unified teammates (athletes without intellectual disabilities) from 176 nations. They were joined by 3,000 coaches and 18,000 volunteers, who worked tirelessly to ensure the event was a success. A record-breaking 1,800 international media and sports journalists representing 90 countries were in Berlin to cover the Games, while 330,000 spectators turned out to cheer on the athletes and enjoy the high-quality sporting competition.**



The 2023 Games in Berlin boasted record-breaking numbers and several notable firsts. The percentage of female athletes participating in the Games rose to its highest level ever: 48.1% of the overall athlete numbers. Sports team overseeing competition and events was also the most inclusive yet, with 51 sport officials and an assistant technical delegate with intellectual disabilities working to support the Games.

International sports organizations were out in force at the Games with 46 representatives from 17 sports organizations, including five International Olympic Committee members and the International Paralympic Committee's president, Andrew Parsons. Four new partnerships with international federations representing hockey, table tennis, volleyball and cycling were launched at the Games, helping to deliver on a legacy goal to improve the quality and reach of Special Olympics programming at a local, national, regional, and international level.

Robust ticket sales, both for competition events and the Opening Ceremony, were also recorded: with 110,000 tickets sold for individual competitions, and an additional 50,000 tickets for Opening Ceremony.

One of the key legacy objectives of the Berlin Games was the improvement of the reach and impact of Special Olympics Germany and the development of more inclusive communities throughout the country. Following the Games, 28 Special Olympics youth leaders and nine athlete leaders are now involved in projects to activate inclusive communities in their localities. In addition, 50 Unified Sports experts - trained at the Games – are engaged in the delivery of ongoing high-quality competitions.

The Special Olympics Young Athletes program was launched in Germany for the first time at the Games. An early childhood play program for children with and without intellectual disabilities, Young Athletes engages children from ages 2 to 7 years old and their families. Special Olympics Germany will be delivering a series of Young Athletes Sports Days, in collaboration with regional associations, over the coming years to expand the program.

330,000

WORLD GAMES SPECTATORS

50,000

OPENING CEREMONY SPECTATORS

100,000

COMPETITION SPECTATOR TICKETS SOLD

200

HOST TOWNS WELCOMING ATHLETES

1,800

MEDIA FROM 90 COUNTRIES

15,000

HEALTHY ATHLETES SCREENINGS completed in 7 DISCIPLINES

ATHLETES FROM

98% OF DELEGATIONS ATTENDED HEALTHY ATHLETES

6,500

ATHLETES & UNIFIED PARTNERS

48%

FEMALE ATHLETES

26

SPORTS

3,000

COACHES

176

Over

60

MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Over

50

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPORT FEDERATION REPRESENTATIVES



SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES BERLIN 2023

Overall, the social impact of the Berlin Games delivered a great boost to awareness of and engagement with Special Olympics. A key legacy objective for the Berlin Games was the positive transformation of attitudes towards those with intellectual disabilities. In Berlin, post-event research shows that the levels of public awareness for Special Olympics grew by 10% compared with before the Games. Across Germany that figure is even higher, with research and evaluation revealing that the levels of recognition for the movement rose by 24%. More than half of those who saw coverage of the Games reported that it had made them more respectful of the achievements of people with intellectual disabilities in everyday life.

This growth was helped by robust media coverage with a historic alliance of 11 of the largest sport reporting media companies in Germany coming together to function as one host broadcaster for the Games. They worked with official Global Broadcaster ESPN to make available 400 hours of live and sports highlight coverage. ESPN platforms also aired content in 13 global markets, with 23 syndicated partners signing up to receive full or partial coverage, while delivering 500 hours of coverage in the United States.

In Europe, a new initiative saw the establishment of the European Media Broadcast Unit. This team of 12 reporters, camera operators and editors delivered more than 800 customized sport news highlights packages featuring each of the 56 delegations from across the Europe Eurasia region. The European Broadcast Union (EBU) also reached an agreement for selected EBU members to show coverage. Under the terms of a multilateral agreement, which included ESPN and the Berlin 2023 Organizing Committee, more than 20 national broadcasters and media outlets across the Europe Eurasia region agreed to deals to take coverage from the Games.

More than 15,000 free health screenings were conducted at the Berlin Games as part of Special Olympics Healthy Athletes®, which is the world's largest inclusive health program focused on the needs of people with intellectual disabilities. Thousands of athletes returned home from the Berlin Games after being fitted with equipment like hearing aids, glasses, and properly fitting shoes -- things critical to sports and life.

Meanwhile, on the sidelines of the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, countries and organizations came together to launch the first-ever Global Leadership Coalition for Inclusion. The Special Olympics Global Leadership Coalition, which recommends that at least 3% of every nation's education budget be spent on inclusive education, was increased to 15 countries during the Berlin Games. In total, 60 ministers and government officials attended the Games.



SPORT DEVELOPMENT

HIGHLIGHTS



COACH WEBINAR SERIES

Fall 2023 brought the third installment of Special Olympics' annual coach webinar series, presented by Gallagher. With the highest recorded attendance ever, this year's series saw three athlete leaders -- Kiera Byland, Alvaro Brochero, Garrett Utz, hailing from three different regions -- invited to host the webinar.

A diverse set of topics was covered during this series with episodes dedicated to exploring Coaching Motor Activities Training Program (MATP) Athletes, Coaching Youth Athletes and Coaching Adult Athletes. Guest speakers representing many of the leading voices from the inclusive sports world were featured, including: Thomas Graham from the Newcastle United Foundation (via EFDN), legendary coach, researcher and Disability Sport Advocate, Ken Black of the Inclusion Club, Dr. Hayley Kavanagh (Dublin City University and SO Ireland), and Dr. Holly Jacobs and Sean Stake (Unified Champion Schools).

In 2023, the series was available with live interpretation in eight different languages (an increase from six the previous year). The 2023 series also reported the highest-ever attendance on a single webinar with 483 coaches joining the Coaching MATP Athletes webinar.

Overall, the series averaged 438 attendees per webinar with an average of 92 countries represented. Over 20% of attendees were coaches new to Special Olympics. With strong social media engagement and promotion, the coach webinar series generated 60 social media posts resulting in 300,000 impressions. All recordings and materials are available on the Coach Webinar Series dashboard (including the 2021 and 2022 resources), with over 1,500 views, while the You Tube recordings/views for this year's series have surpassed 2,200.

MOTOR ACTIVITIES TRAINING PROGRAM (MATP)

This unique Special Olympics program is designed for athletes whose physical and/or behavioral issues limit participation in traditional Special Olympics team and individual sports. Thanks to expert help and staff expertise, there have been 13 MATP development grants delivered to national programs, plus MATP training in SOLA and SOEE. In addition, 2023 saw the convening of the MATP Global Advisory Resource Committee, which will provide recommendations in the redevelopment of support materials and resources for MATP coaches, programmes and other key constituents.

SPORT PARTNERSHIPS

As of 2023, Special Olympics has 1,083 international, regional and national level sport federation partnerships. Special Olympics continues to focus heavily on the expansion and growth of sport partnerships. At the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, three new partnership agreements were signed with the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), The International Cycling Union (UCI), and the International Hockey Federation (IHF) and an enhanced renewal of our MOU with the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB). These partnerships help strengthen local sport programming, raise awareness of Special Olympics globally and foster inclusion within existing sport organizations.



A VISION FOR INCLUSIVE HEALTH EVERYWHERE



Whether it is Special Olympics Zimbabwe's Barbara Njovo at the World Health Summit, Special Olympics Malta's Gilmour Borg at the European Union Mental Health Day Conference or Special Olympics Missouri's Allen Tobin at the American Public Health Association's Annual Conference, our athletes are making their voices – and their vision of health equity – heard. These strong efforts by our Health Messengers encompass the breadth of Special Olympics' Health programming, elevating individual stories of injustice and impact to drive system-wide reforms to benefit all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Spurred by the urgency of persistent health inequities, Special Olympics continues to expand and deepen efforts to improve the health of all athletes. To date, Special Olympics has performed over **2 million free health screenings, including 93,928 in 2023**. These screenings are coupled with health education and referrals to local providers for conditions such as untreated tooth decay, mouth pain, high blood pressure and excess weight. Of those screened, **5,577 athletes received corrective eyeglasses and 301 received state-of-the-art hearing aids through Special Olympics' partners**.

In 2023, over **300,000 participants engaged in fitness programming**, with many achieving physical activity levels greater than the general population, reducing their blood pressure levels and weight, and adopting healthy behaviors.

Over **256,635 children with and without intellectual disabilities benefitted from the Young Athletes program**, an early intervention that has been shown to result in a seven-month improvement in developmental gains in just two months of active participation.

In 2023, over **30,000 individuals from 59 countries were added to the total of 300,000 healthcare providers and students that have been trained to provide quality care to individuals with intellectual disabilities**.

4,500+ individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities were trained to advocate for inclusive health, many of whom have played active roles in shaping services, policies and awareness in their countries with lasting results.

Special Olympics Health, made possible by the Golisano Foundation, and in the United States in collaboration with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is creating a world where people with intellectual disabilities have every opportunity to be healthy.



HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

Started as a pilot in 2012, Special Olympics Healthy Communities has now been initiated in 145 sites around the world and is on track to exceed the 2026 goal of establishing this comprehensive health programming model in 150 Special Olympics Programs.

PREVENTION

Over 256,635 Young Athletes, with and without intellectual disabilities, benefitted from this early childhood development program which improves motor skills, and social and cognitive development. In addition, a resource of year-long lesson plans was developed and piloted for Young Athletes, filling a much-needed gap in kindergarten curricula which stands to accelerate the development of all participating children. To complement these efforts, the Young Athletes app underwent a round of enhancements and launched in six languages within Google Play and Apple app stores globally.

Over 7,800 family members and athletes participated in 67 Family Health Forums where they gained valuable health education from subject matter experts on a range of topics including nutrition, diabetes, mental health and healthy relationships. To strengthen the quality of these forums, two new models are being developed to help families drive behavior change and instill healthy habits that may be adopted by all family members.

Special Olympics Fitness, which engages athletes in ongoing physical activity, nutrition, and hydration programming, continued to grow substantially and reached over 300,000 participants. Fitness messaging and health education were integrated within Performance Stations at the World Games in Berlin to promote healthy habits. Results from a survey conducted at the Games found positive trends in health behaviors: 73.5% (Middle East North Africa) to 90.9% (East Asia) slept for 7+ hours/night; and athletes reporting that their health was good-excellent ranged from 75.4% (Latin America) to 96% (Asia Pacific).



Special Olympics' health work is operationalized through four foci – Prevention, Assessment, Training, and Health Systems Strengthening. In 2023, Special Olympics made the following progress on the PATH to Health Equity:

ASSESSMENT

Healthy Athletes screenings have been an integral part of the Special Olympics' athlete experience for over 25 years and have resulted in thousands of athletes having health issues identified, referred and addressed. A revision to screening protocols in 2023 ensured that this program remains abreast of clinical advancements and now includes questions from national health surveillance instruments to adequately compare indicators with the general population and track changes in health disparities.

Globally, 93,928 screenings were conducted with 61,000+ individual digital records captured to aid tracking follow-up care, monitoring improvements in health outcomes and support surveillance and advocacy efforts. Over 5,500 pairs of prescription eyewear and 1,500 prescription goggles were provided to athletes, correcting vision and allowing athletes to better perform both on and off the field of play. Three hundred and one individuals had their hearing restored through hearing aids provided by Starkey Cares in partnership with Healthy Hearing, both at screening events and in their communities.



In total, Special Olympics Programs reported that 4,297 referrals were addressed through follow-up care following concerns identified during Healthy Athletes screenings. Internationally, over 85% of these referrals are connected to a health provider who has been identified by the Special Olympics Program as providing accessible, quality care and is thus competent to provide the care individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities both require and deserve.

TRAINING

The development of a workforce that is equipped with the appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes to provide quality care to people with intellectual disabilities is contingent on high-quality training opportunities for both healthcare professionals and students. As a result, Special Olympics uses the Healthy Athletes screening program as an opportunity to train clinicians and provide valuable hands-on experience. In 2023, 5,428 clinicians and 9,263 students were trained at Healthy Athletes events; an additional 279 health professionals were trained to serve as Clinical Directors in events held in Germany, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Peru, Oman, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and several sites in the U.S.

A further 16,202 clinicians and students were trained through online training resources or Program-led initiatives. Demand for online trainings rose significantly in 2023 as the first five modules, Inclusive Health Fundamentals, of the virtual university were upgraded and softly launched in 3 regions in the final quarter of 2023. In this brief period, over 750 students from 25+ universities completed the full set of modules, whilst health professionals from over 600 unique institutions completed modules through our partnership with HealthStream – the largest online training platform for health systems across the US, Canada and the Caribbean.

HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

Special Olympics continues to build the case and tools for inclusive health systems and is a key player in disability-inclusive health. In 2023, Special Olympics began work on a multi-year, multi-country project known as the Rosemary Collaboratory which will give rise to the first ever Global Report on the Health of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, to be launched in 2025.

Building upon the formative work of the Missing Billion Initiative, Special Olympics partnered with Missing Billion to create an intellectual and developmental disability specific module that might be applied to national and decentralized health systems to assess their degree of inclusivity. Beginning in 2024, this tool will be applied in seven countries and three US states – Chinese Taipei, India, Ireland, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, and South Africa; Pennsylvania, Washington, and Wisconsin.

The findings of these assessments will be featured in the Global Report, and will also give rise to national and global advocacy efforts aimed at addressing the system level reforms most likely to create lasting change for all individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Coupled with the 2,500+ unique partnerships being nurtured at local and country levels, and the growing cadre of over 1,000 Health Messengers who served as vocal advocates for health equity in 2023, Special Olympics is well positioned to ensure that the health needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are etched within the global health agenda.

ATHLETE STORY

Moses Butulule, a Special Olympics Kenya athlete, is 8 years old and has both physical (spinal bifida) and intellectual disabilities. He lives with his paternal grandmother Gladys Butulule since his biological parents rejected him because of his disabilities.

In October of 2023, Special Olympics Kenya conducted a Healthy Athlete screening for more than 300 athletes in Mupeli Primary School. Moses was part of those who were screened and was referred to Bungoma Referral Hospital for further medical checkup and treatment. As Special Olympics Kenya collaborates with Bungoma County Health Department and had trained the staff on providing quality assessments to persons with disabilities, his grandmother was able to secure an appointment promptly and he was given the treatment that he needed as well as a wheelchair free of charge.

Moses is registered under the school's home-based programme since he cannot manage to attend school on a daily basis due to his condition and the fact that his grandmother cannot afford to pay for his motorbike transport every day. Previously, Moses had never had a wheelchair. He used to be placed on a mat where he spent the majority of his time lying down. The provision of a wheelchair was a huge relief to him and his grandmother. With enhanced mobility, he is now able to interact with his family members easily, gets to accompany them to social events and movement around his home has eased up. "This would not have been possible without the medical assessment by Special Olympics Kenya. Without this, my grandson would still be lying on the mat" says Gladys, Moses' grandmother.

RECOGNIZING HEALTH CHAMPIONS



The World Games in Berlin served as a fitting backdrop for the 2023 Global Golisano Health Leadership Awards event. This event honored the remarkable work of seven individuals and organizations from across the globe that have served as champions of inclusive health in their countries, actively improving access to quality services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The 2023 Global Golisano Health Leadership recipients were Dr. Hafizur Rahman, Bangladesh; Kenya Medical Training College, Kenya; Dr. Lin-Chung Woung, Chinese Taipei; Dr. Imke Kaschke, Germany; Dr. Georgina Toro, Chile; Abu Dhabi Public Health Center, United Arab Emirates; and Dr. David Jenkins, USA.



In addition to awarding accolades, Special Olympics was the recipient of the Sharecare Emmy Award for the second consecutive year for the video, **“School of Strength: Class is Now in Session”**.

The Sharecare Awards program inspires and uplifts individuals and organizations who utilize media to empower people worldwide in leading healthier lives. In addition, Special Olympics was announced as the recipient of the 2023 Pardes Humanitarian Prize in Mental Health bestowed by the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation. This award recognizes Special Olympics’ contributions to advancing the understanding of mental health, and improving the lives of people who are at risk of or living with mental illness.

BERLIN 2023 BUILDING A HEALTH LEGACY

Health programming at the 2023 World Summer Games included a number of ‘firsts’: The Healthy Athletes screening program provided an end-to-end digital experience that improved efficiency, data availability and was attractive to all that interacted with it. **As a result, over 15,000 screenings were conducted over 8 days and 193 of the 195 participating countries had athletes screened – the highest total recorded at a Games.** Over 1,300 pairs of prescription eyewear were distributed, and 259 hearing aids were fitted including 51 3-D printed custom molds. This impressive impact was witnessed by Dr. Lauterbach, Minister of Health in Germany, who provided key remarks at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

In addition, the first week-long Young Athletes program was held at the Games, engaging over 700 children with and without intellectual disabilities from multiple kindergarten classes across Berlin. As a result of this activity, Special Olympics Germany now boasts an active and growing Young Athletes program – a strong legacy from the Games!





A BANNER YEAR FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

The Special Olympics Global Youth and Education department, comprised of the Unified Champion Schools team, the Youth Development unit, and the Global Center for Inclusion in Education, celebrated a myriad of successes throughout 2023.

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

Unified Champion Schools (UCS) offer Unified Sports, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement, resulting in evidence documenting the impact on school climate, social emotional development, academic outcomes, and inclusive mindsets and behaviors. Unified Champion Schools programming has extended its reach beyond the United States to 151 countries, thanks to the backing of significant contributors such as the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF) and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the U.A.E., Ruler of Abu Dhabi, Supreme Commander of the U.A.E. Armed Forces (MBZ), along with partners like Hasbro. During the past year, 41 country programs have received direct grant-funded support from Special Olympics.

Within the United States, UCS began its 16th year of partnership with the Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education, and at the end of 2023, Special Olympics North America was poised to surpass its 2024 target of 10,000 schools, pre-K through college, engaged across the country.

In 2023, UCS received the esteemed Academy Choice Award from HunderED, a global leader in education innovation. HunderED annually recognizes the top 100 educational innovations from around the world, and Unified Champion Schools not only earned a spot in this prestigious list but also was named the recipient of the Academy Choice Award, an accolade presented to the top innovation of the year.

At the headquarters level, Special Olympics built a global community of practices where Programs receive monthly technical assistance, participate in peer-to-peer support, and have direct access to global best practices and a resource library. As one of its most important initiatives targeting policymakers, Special Olympics launched a Global Leadership Coalition for Inclusion, which unites governments to directly finance and support Special Olympics Unified Champion School in-country. In 2023, 15 inaugural Programs joined the coalition.

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The Global Youth Leadership Summit marked a historic milestone for youth leaders from across the world.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2023, Special Olympics organized a groundbreaking Global Youth Leadership Summit, marking a historic milestone as it was entirely organized and led by the Global Youth Leadership Council, comprised of young leaders with and without intellectual disabilities from across the world. This event united over 100 young leaders, culminating in the implementation of 45 youth-led projects and 12 Youth Leadership Summits spanning over 40 countries. The culmination of the Lead to Include Project, made feasible through the generous support of Lane Global Youth Leadership, was celebrated as it wrapped up its final year, engaging over 110 Special Olympics Programs through 350 Youth Leadership Summits and over 600 youth-led projects focused on fostering inclusion throughout its 5-year duration.

The Summit was additionally supported by Hasbro who sponsored the Athlete Lounges and provided company toys and games for the Hasbro Games Corner for all athletes to enjoy.

RESEARCH AND GLOBAL CENTER

Special Olympics Global Center for Inclusion, founded in 2019 by a generous gift from His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the U.A.E., serves as a platform of best practices for Unified Champion Schools. The Center has launched a global Research Collaborative, comprised of 33 global scholars and athletes. In its second year, the Research Collaborative developed a set of key research principles, parameters, and themes that serve as the foundation for publishing and executing a consensus research agenda to advance research, practice, and policy related to inclusion in sport and education contexts. The Center has also continued two important partnerships with renowned research institutions. In collaboration with the EASEL Lab at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, we developed a framework for inclusive mindsets and behaviors as well as several important resources and tools for developing next generation programming aligned with the framework, including a theory of change, research brief, draft measurement tool, case study vignettes, and easy-read one-pagers. In partnership with Northwestern University, we began our third and final year of an evaluation of UCS across six countries, conducting pre/post surveys and focus groups with educators, students, and families to learn more about program impacts on social and emotional well-being, social inclusion, and school climate and safety. Because of these efforts, the Center has been recognized with the Access, Diversity, and Inclusion Silver Reimagine Education award.





CLOSEUP: UNIFIED LEADERSHIP

Special Olympics -- whether it is through our Unified sports, Unified schools, Unified leadership, and other programming -- seeks to change attitudes and behaviors of people without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). It is essential to our theory of change.

Not only do we believe that people with IDD themselves need opportunities to learn sports skills and be part of a team and part of their schools and communities, but we also know that real inclusion requires people without IDD to change their attitudes and behaviors to truly recognize and embrace people with IDD.

Over the past 2 years, Special Olympics has undertaken research alongside [Harvard University's EASEL lab](#) to discover the essential components of inclusive mindsets and behaviors (final research brief linked [here](#)).

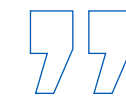
This research has given us a targeted way to grow the inclusive mindsets and behaviors of people without IDD. Equipped with this groundbreaking research, the Unified Leadership team leveraged it to ground and strengthen our offerings in Unified Leadership. We hired a consultant who specializes in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) trainings for corporations to evaluate our current "Unified Leadership: Warm-up" and "Unified Leadership: Kickoff" materials to ensure they properly implement the inclusive mindsets and behaviors research. [Link to the UL page, https://resources.specialolympics.org/UL](https://resources.specialolympics.org/UL)

In 2023, Special Olympics hosted seven Unified Leadership sessions for more than 275 people at 65 different companies and organizations, including partners such as Skillsoft.



The 2023 Unified Leadership Warm-Up session was yet another key component of Skillsoft's efforts to demonstrate what a highly inclusive environment can and should look like. Our long-standing partnership with Special Olympics has been instrumental in raising awareness about inclusion of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Together, we're creating enriching, on-demand courses, and hosting impactful 'Live Learning' events, which enhance the learning experience and help people realize their full potential through skilling.

As we progress through 2024, we are excited to host the 'Kickoff' phase of the Unified Leadership training. This workshop will help learners apply all they learned in 'Warm-Up' and nurture a culture where everyone feels welcome and empowered to lead, contribute, and make a difference.



Ciara Harrington
Chief People Officer, Skillsoft





In addition to an increased focus on adapting the teaching materials to include the Inclusive Mindsets and Behaviors (IMB) framework, we placed an emphasis on recruitment materials. This includes a case-study video project with United Airlines that speaks to the organization-wide benefits of going through a Unified Leadership session. This video shows the impact of the training and how employees without IDD can use what they learned to create a more inclusive workplace.



I hope people would take this training and not look at just people who are in Special Olympics, but if people understood this and people really listened, I think equality and inclusion could just skyrocket.



Paula Abril
United Airlines Corporate Instructor

As another way to increase the reach of Unified Leadership sessions, Special Olympics North America hosted the first in-person Unified Leadership facilitator training in Ohio. Athletes and staff from five Programs participated in a training to help them better understand the Unified Leadership materials and the role they can and should play in hosting their own sessions locally for their own external partners.

As a result of the training and thanks to funding from United Airlines, 17 athlete leaders became official Unified Leadership facilitators and delivered sessions locally to more than 200 people in Indiana, Wisconsin, and Ohio.



A new sense of confidence is evident in the athlete leaders, and that is brought on because they are seen and feel like equals in the work—and (they are) are equals. Athlete leaders see how powerful their stories are for changing minds, and their stories make them leaders and not victims.

Special Olympics Ohio staff

(The training) positively impacted my work environment and helped create more colleague relationships. It was a challenge to be vulnerable to share stories about my disability... but I believe without this training, I would not have bonded with my co-workers in the same way.



Katrina Crow
SO Wisconsin athlete leader and Unified Leadership facilitator

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR OF ATHLETE LEADERSHIP

The 2023 World Games in Berlin was the perfect platform for athlete leaders from all over the world to shine: showing their talents and skills beyond the playing field, plus representing fellow athlete leaders as spokespeople and decision-makers throughout the Games.



Chair Election

Immediately after being elected Chair of the Global Athlete Congress, Kiera Byland was congratulated by outgoing chair Nyasha Derera and Emily Klinger, Senior Vice President, Leadership & Organizational Development for Special Olympics International.

GLOBAL ATHLETE CONGRESS



The 2023 Global Athlete Congress (GAC) brought together 63 athlete leaders and 63 mentors from 48 Special Olympics Programs worldwide. This event, hosted during the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, served as a platform for fostering inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

The GAC aimed to enhance participants' leadership skills, as well as cross-regional collaboration, and data collection that will help drive Special Olympics' work moving forward.

The theme – "Leading Together" – was our call to action. Over the course of the week, everyone experienced what "Leading Together" means, having people with and without IDD working together with the purpose of creating a more inclusive global society.

Outcomes and achievements

- During the Project Exhibition, participants were able to share with Special Olympics World Games attendees the impact of the projects they led in their communities ahead of this event. Projects were planned and implemented with the purpose of increasing inclusion of people with IDD at schools, workplaces, and the community at large.

- Special Olympics announced that Kiera Byland was named the Global Athlete Congress Chair. She will serve the on SOI Board of Directors for the next four years, representing not only the GAC participants but all Special Olympics athletes.

- Policy recommendations: GAC participants continued discussing the two priority topics chosen in the Athlete Input Session, with the goal of making policy recommendations that GAC Chair Kiera Byland would take to the SOI Board of Directors.

The 2023 Global Athlete Congress successfully achieved its objective of further developing athletes' leadership skills, so they can take on more leadership roles in Special Olympics, their communities, and the workplace. Attendees returned to their home countries ready to challenge their respective Special Olympics Programs and communities to do more than just promote inclusion, but to live it.

SARGENT SHRIVER GLOBAL MESSENGERS IN ACTION

At the 2023 World Games in Berlin, 10 athlete leaders who had served as Sargent Shriver Global Messengers (SSGMs) from 2019-2023 had another opportunity to leave a lasting imprint on the world. Through speeches and other engagements, each wanted to leave a legacy of acceptance and inclusion.

During their 11 days at the Games, they participated in more than 50 different individual engagements, including:

- Traditional speeches both large and small, including at Opening Ceremony
- Moderating or serving as panelists during the Global Athlete Congress and Global Forum for Inclusion
- Discussing inclusion with global leaders at the government leader roundtable
- Answering questions as part of media interviews
- Emceeding special events or MOU signings
- Giving tours to honored guests at Healthy Athletes venues
- Thanking partners and ambassadors at special events
- Volunteering with Young Athletes and at the Athlete Festival

Special Olympics is forever grateful for the passion and dedication from this group of outstanding leaders over the past five years. Their messages have left a mark on thousands of people both inside and outside our movement.

We also thank everyone around them who made it possible, from family members to mentors, and to Program staff and Regional staff as well.

While their role as SSGMs officially came to an end in 2023, the lessons they learned and experiences they had during their tenure will serve them well in their local Programs, their Regions, and their communities as they look for their next opportunities. We know this is not goodbye for this group of athlete leaders, but instead a new beginning – and we cannot wait to see what they do next.





PIONEER PARTNER

The Law Enforcement Torch Run® (LETR) for Special Olympics continues to be the largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle for Special Olympics. Over the years, the LETR has evolved and now encompasses a variety of innovative fundraising platforms including but not limited to Plane Pull®, Polar Plunge®, Tip-A-Cop®, Cop on a Rooftop®, etc. Since its inception in 1981, the LETR has raised more than \$1 billion for Special Olympics programs and an unmeasurable amount of awareness for our athletes and mission.

Currently, the LETR has 64 active programs in North America, 12 in Europe, 2 in East Asia, 9 in the Caribbean and 6 in Oceania. Last year, more than 134,000 law enforcement personnel, Special Olympics athletes, volunteers, and military dedicated their time and resources to the LETR across the globe.

The LETR Executive Council, in close collaboration with SOI, provides leadership and resources for the Torch Run movement. Executive Council members coordinate the World Games Final Leg efforts and the annual LETR International Torch Run Conference. In 2023, more than 1,200 law enforcement personnel attended the 38th annual conference in Chicago, IL.

In addition, 85 international Torch Runners, including 77 law enforcement volunteers and eight Special Olympics athletes, participated in the LETR Final Leg for the 2023 World Games in Berlin. This group was joined by 10 German officers, 30 German athletes and 14 logistic team members. The LETR Final Leg carried the Flame of Hope through 16 host towns raising awareness leading up to the Special Olympics World Games Berlin Opening Ceremony held on June 17, 2023, at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin.



A VERY SPECIAL CHRISTMAS

PIONEER PARTNER

The A Very Special Christmas albums, created by world renowned musical artists, producers, and A&M records, has generated \$67 million in royalties since the first album was released in 1987, and over 150 local Special Olympics Programs—primarily in Africa and Asia—have benefitted in the past 35 years. Approximately \$3 million is allocated by the Trust each year to support Special Olympics Athletes. In 2023, over \$3 million was allocated by the Christmas Records Trust to support Program development and 23 Programs from five Regions were awarded funds to support their trip to Berlin for the 2023 Special Olympics World Games.



OUR PARTNERS

Special Olympics is pleased to recognize our partners for their vital support

OUR PARTNERS



FOUNDING PARTNER

For over 50 years, The Coca-Cola Company has served as the Founding Partner and Global Sponsor of Special Olympics, committed to creating a better shared future for people with intellectual disabilities. This enduring partnership has supported countless Special Olympics Programs, athletes, and events with financial and in-kind contributions, employee volunteering and awareness raising initiatives.

As the Official Beverage Partner and Premium Sponsor of the 2023 World Games in Berlin, The Coca-Cola Company invited their employees and customers to actively participate and support 6500 athletes and Unified partners from 176 countries. 200 employees from Europe participated in the company's corporate volunteering program. In addition, Coca-Cola created their own volunteering activities to bring energy to the stands and cheer the athletes. Throughout the event, athletes, Unified partners, volunteers, families, and fans were refreshed and hydrated with various Coca-Cola products. In support of the Games and throughout the summer of 2023, the "Your Support is Real Magic" campaign showcased the limitless potential of individuals with intellectual disabilities and the power of sport to break down barriers and transform lives. Together The Coca-Cola Company and Special Olympics will continue to create a lasting legacy of inclusion, respect and joy.

Coca-Cola created two spotlight videos with athletes they met during the World Games, to help showcase their continued support for Special Olympics athletes and the impact the organization makes on athletes' lives. These videos underline Coca-Cola's belief in Special Olympics' mission of creating a better world by fostering acceptance and inclusion.

BANK OF AMERICA

Building on 40+ years of support, Bank of America deepened its commitment in 2023 to empowering Special Olympics athletes on and off the playing field by creating leadership opportunities at the local, national, and global levels. Throughout the year, our Special Olympics Athlete Leaders were supported by Bank of America through our Athlete Leadership, Unified Leadership, Unified Champion City Schools programming, and Special Olympics USA — the delegation of 190 athletes from the United States who competed in the 2023 Berlin World Games.

Thanks to Bank of America's support, Special Olympics USA was able to gather in New York for a sendoff celebration before traveling to compete in Berlin. Bank of America provided each athlete with a care package and custom trading cards and employees joined the sendoff celebration. Bank of America employees volunteered throughout the 2023 World Games, including Bank of America executives from the U.S., Germany, and Hong Kong participating in the Global Athlete Congress.

Aligned with Bank of America's long-time support of Athlete Leadership, Bank of America also supported the Global Athlete Congress, which brought together athlete leaders from around the world to develop their leadership skills, enabling them to take on greater leadership roles in their communities, workplaces, and within Special Olympics.

While the focus was on Berlin for much of 2023, Bank of America remained engaged across the U.S. with employees volunteering at events, serving as thought leaders, and providing leadership opportunities for Special Olympics athletes. A core component of this work is Bank of America employees who serve as Better Money Habits Champions, co-leading Better Money Habits trainings with Athlete Leaders for Special Olympics athletes. Better Money Habits fosters economic mobility through financial education for people of all abilities.

[Learn more about Bank of America](#)





ESPN is the Global Presenting Sponsor of Unified Sports and Official Broadcaster for the Special Olympics USA and World Games. ESPN is proud of its relationship with Special Olympics, which spans nearly 39 years. Over the past ten years, ESPN has continued to deepen its relationship with the Special Olympics movement.

The alliance between ESPN and Special Olympics uses the power of sports to promote social inclusion and acceptance through two pillars of the relationship: ESPN's Global Presenting Sponsorship of Special Olympics Unified Sports® and a multi-year global programming agreement. Dedicated to promoting social inclusion through shared sports training and competition experiences, Special Olympics Unified Sports joins people with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team. It was inspired by a simple principle: training together and playing together is a quick path to friendship and understanding. With support from ESPN and others, Special Olympics has grown this innovative and inclusive program to more than 1.8 million participants.

Since 2013, ESPN has invested over \$10 million in cash and in-kind to support Special Olympics' goal of building Unified Sports programming and resources in 10,000 schools, reaching 100,000 new or re-certified coaches.

Through the multi-year global programming agreement, ESPN has served as the Official Broadcaster for the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles, 2017 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Austria, 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle, 2019 Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi, 2022 Special Olympics USA Games in Orlando and most recently the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin. Additionally, ESPN covered the men's and women's Final matches at the Special Olympics Unified Cup and launched the Special Olympics: 50 Game Changers™ year-long storytelling initiative as part of its celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Special Olympics. Each story will showcase an athlete, coach or parent, among others, who is making—or has made—a profound difference within Special Olympics over the years, a true game changer. All films can be found at www.espn.com/specialolympics.

ESPN and Disney employees have been engaged in volunteerism with Special Olympics for all of their nearly 40-year relationship, including more than 100 Disney employees volunteering at the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin.



The Special Olympics – Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) Mission: Inclusion global partnership celebrated a remarkable 2023, filled with social impact, expansion and innovation in support of individuals with intellectual disabilities and their families. The 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin witnessed a record-level volume of Lions Clubs and Leo volunteers in support of the Games, pledging their support to key initiatives such as the Opening Eyes eye health and vision care program, dedicated to providing Special Olympics athletes with prescription eyeglasses, UV-protected sunglasses and sports protective eyewear. In addition, on the sidelines of Berlin, LCIF become one of the inaugural members of the Special Olympics Global Leadership Coalition for Inclusion, a multilateral effort that encourages national governments, development agencies and leading philanthropic and civil society organizations to expand the reach of inclusive sports in schools and community centers worldwide. As part of a concerted effort to bring inclusive programming through service to more and more Special Olympics athletes, Special Olympics and LCIF signed a historic partnership expansion agreement in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts to bring the partnership to more nations worldwide as part of a shared commitment to inclusion through service. The partnership extension signed in Massachusetts served as part of the celebration of the 2023 Lions Clubs International Convention, with Dr. Timothy Shriver, Chairman of Special Olympics, speaking at the JFK Library in Boston on the role of service and inclusion in today's global discourse. Together, Special Olympics and LCIF impact the lives of athletes, families, coaches, volunteers- one community, one service project at a time.





Golisano FOUNDATION

Imagine the possibilities!

B. Thomas Golisano, an entrepreneur, philanthropist, civic leader, is the founder and Chairman of Paychex, Inc., a national leader in the payroll and human resource industry. The Golisano Foundation, which he established in 1985, is one of the nation's leading foundations dedicated exclusively to helping organizations that assist people with developmental disabilities.

In September 2021, Special Olympics received its largest single private gift in the organization's 53-year history from Tom Golisano. Mr. Golisano's prior and pledged gifts of \$67 million have been pledged to expand the Special Olympics Healthy Communities program, which provides health services globally for people with intellectual disabilities (ID), a population that remains critically underserved.

Through this support, Special Olympics is now providing comprehensive health programming in 146 Special Olympics Programs and is on track to exceed the goal of 150 Programs by 2026. The focus on measurement, standardization of practices, early diagnosis, training the workforce, and strengthening health systems to reflect inclusive policies aligns with the Golisano Foundation's vision and furthers both organization's mutual goal of improving health equity for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

[For more information see www.golisanofoundation.org](http://www.golisanofoundation.org)



Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

Gallagher is a global insurance brokerage, risk management and consulting services firm. As the official sponsor of Special Olympics International sport and coach programming, Gallagher plays a pivotal role in supporting the movement's mission to expand sports to new regions and to deliver the highest quality of coach training and sport experience to more than four million athletes in 227 local programs around the world.

Gallagher has been a sponsor of Special Olympics Illinois, Special Olympics Southern California, Special Olympics New York, Special Olympics Australia and Special Olympics Ontario programs since 2020, and will be a Supporting Sponsor of the Special Olympics 2025 World Games, a Platinum Sponsor of the Special Olympics 2026 USA Games and a Supporting Sponsor of the Special Olympics 2027 World Games.

"Gallagher is proud of our ongoing work and partnership with Special Olympics. Building on the momentum achieved since we first began working together, we continue our efforts to bring awareness to the beautiful mission of Special Olympics and our shared values of supporting and respecting the abilities of one another to create a more compassionate future."

-Christopher Mead, Chief Marketing Officer, Gallagher





TOYOTA

Toyota became a global partner of Special Olympics in 2017, building upon their long history of support at the state and national levels in North America and Japan for nearly 30 years.

Since then, Toyota has played a pivotal role in showcasing the untapped potential of Special Olympics athletes, opening the hearts and minds of the public through its investment in Unified Sports, Athlete Leadership, and Unified Leadership activities.

Additionally, Toyota has actively sponsored and participated in various global initiatives, including the World Games, USA Games, Unified Cups, and National Games. Toyota renewed its 2nd Global partnership from 2023 to 2025 to further advance the Special Olympics movement.

Furthermore, Toyota Motor Europe and Special Olympics announced a regional partnership to support Special Olympics Europe Eurasia's grassroots inclusive programming and Unified Sports events, starting in 2020.

Toyota's mission to provide freedom of movement for everyone aligns with Special Olympics' goals of creating a society based on inclusion and community.

[Learn more about Toyota Motor Corporation](#)



Since 2017, United has partnered with Special Olympics International and has contributed more than \$8.5M in travel and cash to support Special Olympics athletes globally.

Together, we have created the groundbreaking and industry leading Special Olympics Service Ambassador (SOSA) program - enabling Special Olympics Athlete Leaders the opportunity to use their talents and further develop their skills through equitable employment across airports, since 2019. As part-time employees, Special Olympics athletes welcome United customers to terminals, help them find check-in kiosks, show them where to drop bags and how to find TSA PreCheck lines. There are currently 18 SOSAs working at United's hubs across the U.S.

United was proud to sponsor Special Olympics' Team USA delegation as they competed in the 2023 Special Olympics Berlin World Games. United also continued its support of Special Olympics' Athlete Leadership program through its sponsorship of the Special Olympics Global Athlete Congress at the Berlin World Games. The Global Athlete Congress (GAC) is a platform where Special Olympics athletes lead the way to a more inclusive world. Athlete Leaders from all seven Special Olympics Regions came to Berlin to share impact and leadership ideas and projects they worked on in the lead-up to the Special Olympics World Games in Berlin. During the various sessions of the Congress, they further developed their skills, so they can take on leadership roles within Special Olympics, their communities, and their workplace.

United's long-standing partnership also extends to their sponsorship of Special Olympics Plane Pull® competitions, Special Olympics Capitol Hill Day, and local volunteer events across the communities they serve. United has been a "Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion" for nine years in a row and has consistently earned a top score on the Disability Equality Index.





BRIGHTSPOT®

2023 was another incredible year for the Special Olympics and Brightspot partnership, with continued focus and collaboration to advance the organization's growing digital presence. Brightspot started off the year with a new web experience for TimothyShriver.com. Along with continued project support for SpecialOlympics.org, Brightspot focused on digital experiences for the 2023 Berlin Special Olympics World Summer Games. The Brightspot team worked closely with the local organization committee to create and launch Berlin2023.org to engage athletes and fans from around the world and help tell the story of the largest inclusive Games hosted in Europe.

Brightspot continues to prioritize Unified Sports programming as a part of their partnership. Kicking off the year with a return to X Games, the Brightspot team supported Special Olympics athletes during the Unified Skiing and Snowboarding events. Additionally, Brightspot hosted a Unified Golf Challenge featuring 24 teams (48 players) representing The First Tee, Special Olympics, and Veterans. Finally, in June, a team of 12 Brightspot employees traveled to Berlin, Germany, to volunteer at the Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023 where they organized and managed the logistics for Unified Sports Experiences and award ceremonies. Brightspot also continued its local participation with Special Olympics Virginia by volunteering at basketball and soccer tournaments and its annual Dulles Day Plane Pull.

[Learn more about Brightspot](#)

Starkey cares

Starkey Cares has served as the official global partner of the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes® Healthy Hearing program and exclusive provider of hearing instrumentation and care for Special Olympics athletes since 2022. In 2023, partnership efforts expanded beyond major Games to directly support Special Olympics Programs, intending to reach and serve a larger audience of athletes through programming and the delivery of care in their local communities.

Healthy Hearing and Starkey Cares leadership further developed an activation model to optimally support each Special Olympics Program through referrals to local Starkey Cares providers and onsite hearing health services at Healthy Hearing screenings, within initial implementation in the US and plans to scale globally. Clinical leadership advanced the Healthy Hearing screening to include a collaborative testing protocol that enables hearing aid fittings, adheres to local clinical and regulatory guidance, and ensures a quality, holistic approach to restoring the hearing health of Special Olympics athletes. This year also highlighted the contribution of Starkey Cares leadership and volunteers who attended Special Olympics World Games Berlin 2023, where of the 2200 athletes screened in Healthy Hearing, more than 10% were served with hearing instrumentation and care. Through Starkey Cares' generous support and global partnership, 259 athletes were fitted with hearing aids during these World Games, 51 of whom received fully customized earmolds to meet their unique hearing health needs. As the partnership between Special Olympics and Starkey continues to evolve beyond 2023, the cornerstone remains the optimal care and world-class service of Special Olympics athletes around the globe, from their home communities to World Games.



Dr. Dave Fabry (left), Starkey's Chief Hearing Health Officer, shakes the hand of Special Olympics Brazil athlete, Marcelino Lages (right), as he reacts to being able to hear properly for the first time.

Photo credit: Starkey



Leading global technology and digital content company Minute Media powers the creation, distribution and consumption of sports and culture content. The organization officially partnered with Special Olympics International in 2022 to help further inclusivity in sports and exemplify the power of authentic storytelling, leveraging Minute Media's global sports and entertainment brands including FanSided, The Players' Tribune, 90Min, and Mental Floss, to raise awareness and share the inspiring stories of Special Olympics athletes.

Further reinforcing their commitment to creating and building inclusive workplaces, Minute Media participated in a Unified Leadership Kickoff session led by Special Olympics athlete leaders earlier this year to learn how to build and grow an inclusive mindset. Minute Media employees listened to the lived experiences and perspectives of athletes with IDD and learned how to turn their inclusive mindset into inclusive behaviors.

Additionally, at this year's Super Bowl, FanSided brought back Special Olympics Florida athlete and sportscaster, Malcom Harris-Gowdie, for a second-time as a paid Unified reporter to cover the Big Game. Harris-Gowdie became **the first Special Olympics athlete to serve as a fully paid and credentialed correspondent at the Super Bowl.** Malcom conducted over 80 interviews alongside FanSided's Sterling Holmes, participating in two live-streams a day, sometimes reporting for 6 hours at a time. Malcom also got the opportunity to attend NFL Opening Night, interviewing players and coaches, and for the very first time, attended the red carpet for NFL Honors.

As part of the partnership, Minute Media supports Special Olympics through digital and social content, media placements and employee participation in other international markets where both organizations have a presence.



LANE GLOBAL YOUTH
LEADERSHIP

Ray Lane, Special Olympics Board Member, and the Lane family have been proud and long-term supporters and champions of Special Olympics, leaving an indelible impact on the lives of athletes around the world. Believing in the power of youth, the Lane family helped to expand Unified Schools into a global program which has grown from their initial investment in five countries to now 150 countries and counting.

Key to building this generation of inclusive youth leaders was developing a structure of global, regional, national, and local opportunities for education and growth. For the past 5 years, the Lane family helped to establish the Lane Global Youth Leadership project that pioneered a cascading series of Special Olympics Youth Leadership Summits. This global community of young leaders, both with and without intellectual disabilities, serves as a catalyst for positive change within schools and communities. Together, they are shaping a world where inclusion becomes the standard, fostering a culture where everyone is valued and embraced.





THE RAZA FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Raza Family Foundation's mission is to encourage ideas that positively impact people's lives. The Foundation does this by investing in strategies that increase a community's long-term sustainability. To this end, the Raza Family Foundation works alongside organizations that are reducing social gaps – specifically in areas of Education, Health and Housing.

With generous support from the Raza Family Foundation, Special Olympics Pakistan is scaling and expanding its health work across the country, with a special focus on Sindh Province, Karachi and Punjab. Together with local partners, the Foundation provides critical support to health programming and training, including training for healthcare professionals, educational Family health forums, and Healthy Athlete screenings. Additionally, the Foundation supports prevention programming and emergency needs for ongoing and unexpected issues across Pakistan. Alongside Special Olympics Pakistan, the Raza Family Foundation is working to build strategic partnerships across the country to support a healthier future for the 31,000 Special Olympics athletes and 5,000 families participating in Pakistan.

Special Olympics remains incredibly grateful for the Raza Family Foundation's unwavering commitment to ensuring people with intellectual differences can lead healthier, more fulfilling lives.



Kim Samuel, Special Olympics Board Member, and the Samuel Family Foundation have provided long-term strategic support to Special Olympics programs across several key disciplines, including sibling and family engagement, Unified Champion Schools, and athlete advocacy programming. As pioneers in the fields of inclusion, belonging, and social connectedness, Kim Samuel and the Samuel Family Foundation remain important partners in Special Olympics' work to ensure people with intellectual disabilities feel a sense of belonging and inclusion in their communities. Through our partnership, the Samuel Family Foundation helped Special Olympics launch the first-ever Sibling Engagement initiative, evolving our families work and creating targeted opportunities specifically for siblings of Special Olympics athletes. Building on this success, Special Olympics has implemented a global family strategy that engages, educates, and empowers family members to be teachers of inclusion and strong advocates for their family member. Additionally, the Foundation invests in the necessary research and evaluation to ensure success of program design and sustainability, as well as necessary financial resources and technical support to empower young people to create inclusion in their communities.

Special Olympics is grateful to Ms. Samuel and the Samuel Family Foundation for their commitment to Special Olympics and our shared our message to show the world what our athletes are truly capable of.

[Learn more about The Samuel Family Foundation.](#)





ΙΣΝ / SNF

ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΣΤΑΥΡΟΣ ΝΙΑΡΧΟΣ
STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION

2023 marked a historic year for the Special Olympics- Stavros Niarchos Foundation Global Campaign for Inclusion partnership. In 21 nations worldwide, the partnership executed important expansion of the Special Olympics Unified Schools programming, empowering youth with and without intellectual disabilities through the Play Unified: Learn Unified platform.

The partnership focused its efforts on strengthening its shared commitment of inclusive sports in over 2000 schools and impacting over 500,000 young people both with and without ID by issuing important thought leadership work, engaging new audiences and propelling forward the urgent message of inclusion and the acceptance of differences.

The 2023 year also witnessed the launch of the first-ever Special Olympics Global Leadership Coalition for Inclusion, a multilateral effort that encourages national governments and the global development community provide domestic financing to the expansion of Unified Sports and Unified Schools in nations around the world. As part of an Inclusive Global Development Roundtable consultation at the 2023 Special Olympics World Games in Berlin, Special Olympics and the Stavros Niarchos Foundation convened 16 inaugural national government Coalition members, as well as United Nations agencies, leading global philanthropy stakeholders, universities and civil society groups committed to making inclusion a reality in every school, every community, and every sports club globally. From Senegal to Montenegro, and from Paraguay to China and beyond, the Special Olympics- Stavros Niarchos Foundation Global Campaign for Inclusion continues to create increased opportunities and key innovations for the movement as part of a shared commitment to inclusive development for youth of all abilities.

with support of
— HIS HIGHNESS SHEIKH —
MOHAMMED BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the U.A.E., Ruler of Abu Dhabi, Supreme Commander of the U.A.E. Armed Forces (MBZ), supported the Abu Dhabi-based Special Olympics Global Center for Inclusion in Education. The Global Center for Inclusion in Education serves as a hub for global thought leadership for inclusive education through research, policy, and programming.

The funding supported the growth and development of Unified Champions School (UCS) in six countries, with expansion to 17 total countries by January 2023. The generosity of His Highness, has now created 1,218 new Unified Champion Schools, impacting more than 686,000 youth, and training over 9,000 coaches and teachers.





The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) support work that improves the overall health and quality of life for people living with disabilities, including those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. This work encompasses support for the inclusion of people with disabilities in public health programs that prevent disease and promote healthy behaviors and safety, as well as efforts to eliminate barriers to health care and improve access to routine preventive services.

A 5-Year Cooperative Agreement between Special Olympics and CDC began in 2021 and currently supports a range of health initiatives. These include the Healthy Athletes program that facilitates health screenings, health promotion and education; an expansion of access to follow-up care and wellness programming; partnerships with medical schools and health professionals to integrate appropriate training and education for the next generation of health professionals; and development of the largest data set on people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the country—to better analyze persistent health inequalities and effective interventions. The partnership also elevates inclusive health to the national stage, targeting wellness, fitness, professional associations, medical schools, public health organizations, funders, and others to become champions of inclusive health.

[Learn more about U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.](#)

The mark "CDC" is owned by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and is used with permission. Use of this logo is not an endorsement by HHS or CDC of any particular product, service, or enterprise. Special Olympics Health activities are supported by many sources, including in the United States by Grant Number NU27DD000021 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, with \$18.1 M (64%) financed with U.S. Federal funds and \$10.2 M (36%) supported by non-federal sources.



The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at the U.S. Department of Education has supported Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools® in creating communities of inclusion and shaping attitudes on school campuses across the United States, reaching more than 9,440 schools in 2023. Through the generous grant support of the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs, K-12 schools and colleges across the United States have been activated as communities of respect and inclusion. With a focus on inclusive youth leadership, whole school engagement activities, and Special Olympics Unified Sports®, students with and without IDD at every grade level become agents of change, build friendships, and develop an inclusive mindset that will change communities around the world for generations to come.

[Learn more about The Office of Special Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education](#)





The European Union (EU) is a long-standing key supporter of Special Olympics across the Europe Eurasia region and beyond and its leadership has demonstrated that it considers Special Olympics a strategic partner for the implementation of the EU Sport Policy. Special Olympics upholds the values of the European Sport Model of sport for all and aligns closely with the EU's commitment to promote inclusion, volunteering, healthy lifestyles, mobility, gender equality and to give access to people with disabilities more opportunities in society.

In 2023 Special Olympics received European Union supported for its flagship event, the World Summer Games in Berlin, Germany through funding and EU leadership participation. In addition, EU project grants were instrumental in driving forward critical programming such as grass-roots participation, inclusive education, health and healthy nutrition, safeguarding and environmental responsibility.



- Barney Family Foundation
- BCW
- Bezos Family Foundation
- Connexus
- Connexus Credit Union
- Cooper Vision

- Davis Love Foundation
- Dove
- Extreme Networks
- FremantleMedia
- Gannett Co., Inc
- General Electric

- Heinz Family Foundation
- Henry Schein Cares
- Jordan Spieth Family Foundation
- The MENTOR Network Charitable Foundation

- Nomi Health
- Optometry Giving Sight
- Right To Run, On's Social Impact Program
- Skillsoft
- Swizel
- Värde Partners

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His Excellency Yousef Al Otaiba
The Honorable Jaime Aleman
William Alford & Yuanyuan Shen
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Barney Family Foundation
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Gone Gator Music in honor of Tom Petty
Kathryn Davis Grado Foundation
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Shriver Society

The Shriver Society recognizes a group of supporters distinguished by their significant contribution over the past year. These individuals are bringing hope and promise to the lives of our athletes across the globe and upholding the incredible legacy of the Shriver family.

Gary & Pennie Abramson
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Barney Family Foundation
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John & Alice Forester Charitable Trust
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J. and R. Friedman
David Gang
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Golisano Foundation
Gone Gator Music in honor of Tom Petty
Kathryn Davis Grado Foundation
Mary Gu
Scott Hamilton*
Billy L. Harbert
Heinz Family Foundation
Irwin & Joan Jacobs
Dale & Yolanda Jones
Muhtar & Defne Kent
Vern Kertis
Ronak Lakhani**
Ms. Yang Lan
Ray & Stephanie Lane**
Lebensfeld Foundation**
Annette M. & Theodore N. Lerner Family Foundation
Damian Lillard
Gary Little
Mark London & Dania Fitzgerald
Glenn & Jane Lyon
Bill McDermott
Greg McNeely

Sam Medvene
Arlene M. Meier & Marshall Meier Foundation
The MENTOR Network Charitable Foundation
Angelo Moratti**
MaryEllen Nerod
Eric O'Leary
Lawrence Page
The Michael Phelps Foundation
Ms. Katherine Schwarzenegger Pratt & Mr. Christopher Pratt
Project Management Institute Education Foundation
Cara Rachlin
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Roy Roberts
Rockwell Foundation
Li Ruigang
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Sethness Family Foundation
Peter Shields
Linda Potter & Timothy Shriver**
Mark Shriver & Jeanne Ripp Shriver
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G. Christopher & Shanon Smith
Ruth Sorenson**
Diana Davis Spencer Foundation
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Johnny Weir
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* Indicates Shriver Society Co-Founder.

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The Champion's Society®

We are grateful for the loyal donors who passed away in 2023 but whose legacy and generosity will live on through the gifts they left in their estate plan.

Anonymous (5)
Estate of Norma Baum
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Estate of James Bridges
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Estate of James M. Compton
Estate of Claire A. Dennis
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James and Julie Drennan Charitable Remainder Trust
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Estate of Robert Sievers

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Special Olympics is grateful for the support of a select group of acclaimed athletes and celebrities who are dedicated to expanding the Special Olympics movement worldwide.

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Olympic Swimmer, Commander of the Order of Distinction

ANDRE DRUMMOND

NBA All-Star & Rebound Champion, Chicago Bulls

APOLO OHNO

Olympic Medalist (Speedskating)

AVRIL LAVIGNE

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BROOKLYN DECKER RODDICK

Actress & Model

CHARLES MELTON

Actor

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Special Olympics Triathlete/ Motivational Speaker

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DALTON RISNER

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DEVIN BOOKER

NBA All-Star, Phoenix Suns

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EDDIE YARBROUGH

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Miss America 2022

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Summer & Winter Olympian, Hurdles & Bobsledding

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VICTORIA ARLEN

ESPN SportsCenter Host

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YANG YANG

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ZHOU XUN

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ZOU SHIMING

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2023 SPECIAL OLYMPICS

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Ethiopia
Ghana
Guinea
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Lesotho
Liberia
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
South Sudan
Tanzania
The Gambia
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Kiribati
Laos
Malaysia
Maldives
Marshall Islands
Micronesia
Myanmar
Nauru
Nepa
Nepal
New Zealand
Nippon (Japan)
Pakistan
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Pilipinas
Samoa
Serendib (Sri Lanka)
Singapore
Solomon Islands
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Tonga
Vanuatu
Vietnam

EAST ASIA

China
Chinese Taipei
Hong Kong
Korea
Macau
Mongolia

EUROPE EURASIA

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Faroe Islands
Finland
France
Georgia Republic
Germany
Gibraltar

ASIA PACIFIC

Afghanistan
American Samoa
Australia
Bangladesh
Bharat
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
Fiji
Guam
Indonesia

Great Britian
Hellas (Greece)
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Isle of Man
Israel
Italy
Kazakhstan
Kosovo
Kyrgyz Republic
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tajikistan
Turkiye
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
Uzbekistan

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Brazil
Chile
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Costa Rica
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay

Peru
Puerto Rico
Uruguay
Venezuela

MIDDLE EAST/ NORTH AFRICA

Algeria
Bahrain
Comoros
Djibouti
Egypt
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Libya
Mauritania
Morocco
Oman
Palestine
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Sudan
Syria
Tunisia
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

NORTH AMERICA

Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
Colorado
Connecticut
Delaware
District of Columbia
Florida
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi

Missouri
Montana
Nebraska
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Carolina
North Dakota
Northern California & Nevada
Ohio
Oklahoma
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Rhode Island
South Carolina
South Dakota
Southern California
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming

Antigua and Barbuda
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Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Bermuda
Bonaire
Canada
Cayman Island
Curacao
Dominica
Guadeloupe
Guyana
Haiti
Jamaica
St. Kitts & Nevis
St. Lucia
St. Maarten
St. Vincent and The Grenadines
Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago
US Virgin Islands

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Includes members who served at any time between January 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023

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Special Olympics

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Special Olympics
• until June 2023

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IAC Latin America Representative; Chair, Special Olympics Chile

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Mr. David Sable
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Mr. Chang-Woo Soh
IAC East Asia Representative

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Activist; Philanthropist; Attorney

Ms. Natalia Vodianova
Model; Philanthropist; Film Actress

Mr. Mike Zafirovski
President and Founder of The Zaf Group; Executive Chairman, ACP CreativIT; Chairman ABCO Systems

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Chief Financial Officer

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Ms. Annemarie Hill
Chief of Health Operations

Mr. Steve Borrelli
Chief Human Resources Officer

Ms. Loretta Claiborne
Director, Board of Directors; Chief Inspiration Officer

Dr. John Dow
Chief, Regional and Program Operations

Dr. John Dow
Chief, Regional and Program Operations

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Chief, Regional and Program Operations

Dr. John Dow
Chief, Regional and Program Operations

Mr. Brandon M. Fitzgerald
Chief Legal Officer; Secretary, Board of Directors

Dr. Jacqueline Jodl, Ph.D
Chief, Global Youth and Education Officer

Ms. Emily Klinger
Senior Vice President, Leadership & Organizational Development

Mr. Louis Lauria
Chief Games & Competition

Mr. Nathan Cook
Interim Chief Information and Technology Officer

Ms. Zehra Sayin
Chief Marketing, Communications & Development Officer

Mr. Shawn Ferguson
Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Chief of Staff to the Office of the Chairman

***Ms. Prianka Nandy**
Chief Information and Technology until July 2023

Ms. Freda Fung
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics East Asia

Ms. Claudia Echeverry
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics Latin America

Mr. Dipak Natali
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics Asia Pacific

Mr. Charles Nyambe
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

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Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

2021-2023 GLOBAL ATHLETE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

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Special Olympics Kenya

Ms. Shrey Kadian
Special Olympics Bharat

Ms. Candy Wong
Special Olympics Hong Kong

Ms. Kiera Byland
Special Olympics Great Britain

Mr. Alvaro Brochero
Special Olympics Venezuela

Mr. Youssef Ramadan
Special Olympics Egypt

Ms. Heidi Mallet
Special Olympics Canada

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP

Dr. John Dow
Chief, Regional and Program Operations

Ms. Claudia Echeverry
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics Latin America

Mr. Greg Epperson
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics North America

Mr. David Evangelista
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics Europe Eurasia

Ms. Freda Fung
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics East Asia

Mr. Dipak Natali
Regional President & Managing Director, Special Olympics Asia Pacific

Mr. Charles Nyambe
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

Mr. Ayman Wahab
Regional President and Managing Director, Special Olympics Middle East/North Africa

Special Olympics Inc. and Affiliates 2023 FINANCIALS

Combined Statement of Activities for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

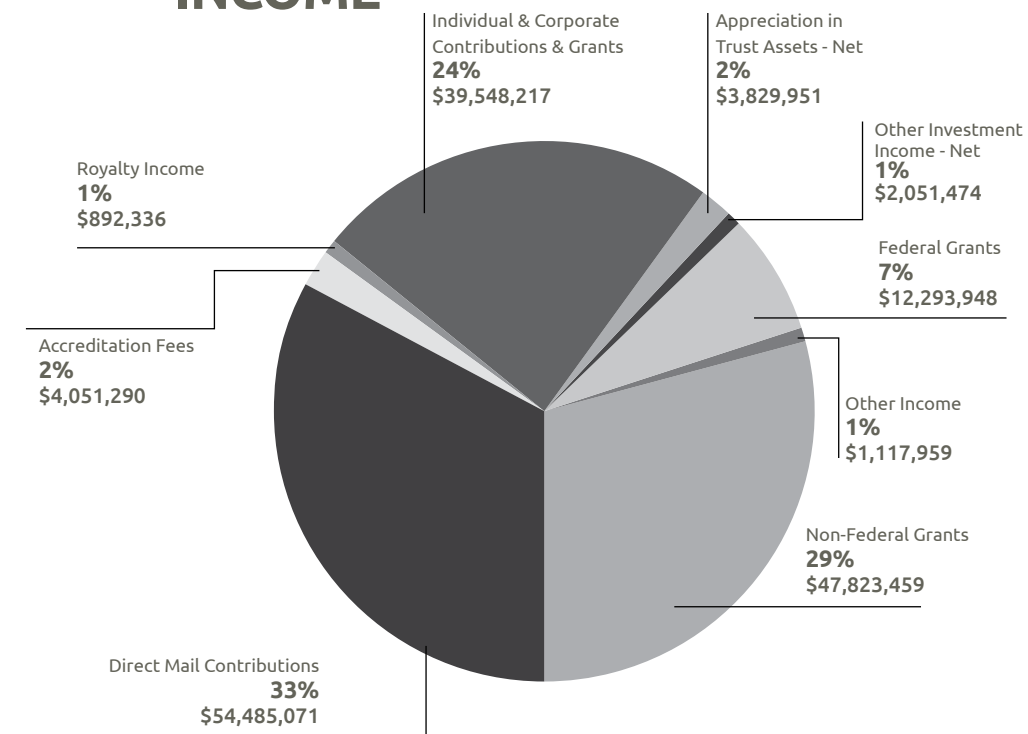
	WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS	WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	FY 2023 TOTAL	FY 2022 TOTAL
REVENUES, GAINS & OTHER SUPPORT				
Direct mail contributions	\$ 54,485,071		\$ 54,485,071	\$ 53,903,803
Individual and corporate contributions and grants	9,849,696	\$ 29,698,521	39,548,217	41,099,890
Federal grants	12,293,948		12,293,948	7,943,661
Non-federal grants	47,823,459		47,823,459	39,195,047
Accreditation fees	4,051,290		4,051,290	4,251,797
Royalty income	892,336		892,336	1,355,522
Appreciation in trust assets - net	3,829,951		3,829,951	-8,136,659
Other investment income - net	2,051,474		2,051,474	-1,294,767
Other income	1,117,959		1,117,959	882,186
Total revenues, gains and other support	\$136,395,184	\$29,698,521	\$166,093,705	\$139,200,480

NET ASSETS RELEASED FROM RESTRICTIONS				
Satisfaction of program restrictions	28,661,912	-28,661,912		
Expiration of time restrictions	10,764,514	-10,764,514		
Total revenues, gains and other support and net assets released from restrictions	\$175,821,610	-\$9,727,905	\$166,093,705	\$139,200,480

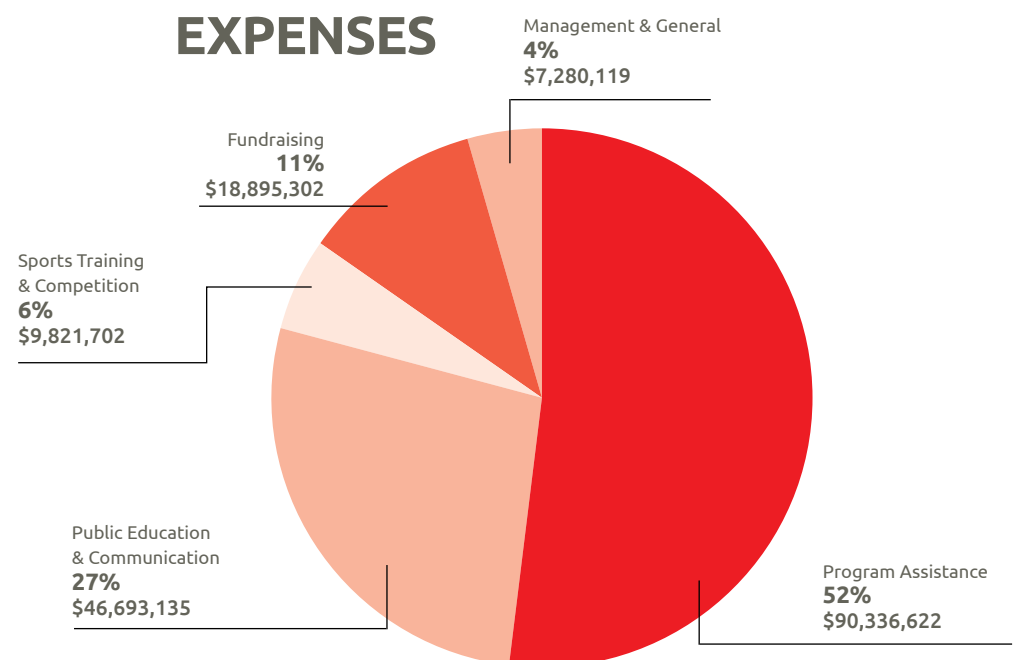
EXPENSES				
Program assistance	90,336,622		90,336,622	71,935,249
Public education and communications	46,693,135		46,693,135	42,824,378
Sports training and competitions	9,821,702		9,821,702	8,362,478
Fundraising	18,895,302		18,895,302	16,090,906
Management and general	7,280,119		7,280,119	5,391,098
Total expenses	\$173,026,880		\$173,026,880	\$144,604,109

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS				
Net assets (beginning of year)	82,330,562	45,784,097	128,114,659	133,518,288
Changes in net assets	2,794,730	-9,727,905	-6,933,175	-5,403,629
Net assets (end of year)	\$85,125,292	\$36,056,192	\$121,181,484	\$128,114,659

INCOME



EXPENSES



ASSETS & LIABILITIES

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 43,101,606	\$ 55,522,961
Contributions & accounts receivable	21,159,560	23,173,368
Investments in Liquidation		22,744,000
Other current assets	3,402,057	3,576,644
Total current assets	\$67,663,223	\$105,016,973
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Investments	70,661,324	37,783,633
Long-term contributions receivable - net	5,519,899	2,477,030
Fixed assets - net	7,589,428	10,069,316
Other assets	761,120	879,714
Total non-current assets	\$84,531,771	\$51,209,693
TOTAL	\$152,194,994	\$156,226,666

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	15,828,963	12,891,987
Grants & awards payable	163,299	140,000
Deferred liabilities	9,644,599	8,336,059
Total current liabilities	\$25,636,861	\$21,368,046
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Lease liability, net	5,376,649	6,743,961
Total liabilities	\$31,013,510	\$28,112,007
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions	85,125,292	82,330,562
With donor restrictions	36,056,192	45,784,097
Total net assets	\$121,181,484	\$128,114,659
TOTAL	\$152,194,994	\$156,226,666

Special Olympics' complete 2023 audited financials and IRS Form 990 are available at www.specialolympics.org

OUR MISSION

Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

SpecialOlympics.org

