

Fu Shun Lee, Chinese Taipei: Representing East Asia



I have a 16-year-old daughter born with Down syndrome. She has no speaking ability, very poor eyesight, but an innocent heart. Yet when I see her physical and mental improvement through participating in the Special Olympics sports and family activities, my heart is filled with joy and pride.

It has been 5 years since I participated in Shanghai Special Olympics World Summer Games in 2007. Since then, I have taken active part in the local Special Olympic activities and gradually shouldered responsibilities as family leader, non-sports program facilitator at local and regional level in Special Olympics Chinese Taipei and East Asia. I am the head of Parents Committee of Chiayi special school where my daughter stays, and the vice chairman of National Parents Committee for Special Schools in Taiwan.

Between 2008 and 2010, I had the opportunity to attend East Asia Family forums and Young Athletes promotional activities in mainland China where I met family members from different areas. We exchanged our joy and sorrow in our experiences, as well as our opinions about the future development of the Special Olympics movement. We believe that by introducing Special Olympics to more families and to the public, by inspiring athletes and their families to be brave and show courage, we can help build a more inclusive community full of acceptance, respect and friendship.