

Fighting Against The Stigma

The Official Newsletter of Special Olympics Illinois

The Impact of Your Contributions to Special Olympics Illinois

By: Carlos Quevedo

Here at Special Olympics Illinois, we focus on helping the future athletes of tomorrow. We encourage and develop these amazing athletes to become the best versions of themselves so that they can change the world. Ever since 1968, Special Olympics Illinois has been promoting the sports of intellectually disabled athletes from across the United States. Without the support and generosity from donors, “Special Olympics wouldn’t be able to change the lives of so many athletes from across Illinois. Special Olympics Illinois raises funds so that, utilizing the power of sports, we can create a world of acceptance and inclusion of all people,” states CEO Dave Bree of Special Olympics Illinois. With your amazing contributions to the Special Olympics of Chicago, we can spread our vision and mission with the Chicago-Land area. Special Olympics of Chicago. All donations, help provide opportunities to more than twenty-three thousand athletes and thirteen thousand athletes.

In 2022, we have impacted these athletes in all aspects of their lives. Special Olympics Illinois does not only impact athletes and communities within Illinois but especially over the world. As an organization, Special Olympics tracks and monitors, the impact we make in the world. We impact communities and athletes' lives through involvement in sports, leadership/community, health, education, competitions, and partnerships. Across the world, we have more than one hundred thousand athletes, and over one hundred and twenty thousand unified partners, who help support our vision for a better tomorrow.

In all Special Olympic events, we saw over three hundred and twenty-five thousand volunteers come out to help make a difference. We had around five thousand events across the world, which has only been increasing with the help of supporters like yourself.

Your contributions towards Special Olympics Illinois pushes our non-profit organization, into creating more programs and outlets for athletes across Illinois. In the last year, we created our e-sports program for our amazing athletes to compete in every day. With the help of our sponsors, we offer unified competitions every week through a series of Game Nights via the Discord App. These donations and sponsorships help platform our organization into every aspect of sports that is seen in our daily life. We do not only focus on the completion of events for these athletes, but as well we take to focus on their health. The Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program offers health services to athletes in need. This program helped Special Olympics become the largest global public health organization dedicated to assisting people with intellectual disabilities. Everything that we do at Special Olympics Illinois, couldn’t be done without our amazing patrons and sponsors, who make a difference in someone’s life, every single day.



**WANT TO GET INVOLVED
IN SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS?**

**Sign up Today to Become a Volunteer
for Special Olympics Illinois!**

By: Carlos Quevedo

Become part of a thrilling volunteering program that will help shape the lives of many athletes across Illinois. Volunteers help participate in 18 official sports, fundraising events, event committees, coaching opportunities, while impacting young athletes across Illinois. Without the help of volunteers, many Special Olympic Illinois athletes will not have the same resources to help them succeed. SOILL relies on volunteers of all ages to help in every aspect of the program. Special Olympics Illinois has offices across the state, to help coordinate over 225 competitions annually. If you are interested in volunteering for an event, please visit our calendar of events and select the event you are interested in volunteering. For more information, please visit soill.org.



Are You Interested in the Young Professionals Board?

By: Carlos Quevedo

Special Olympics Illinois' Young Professionals Board is a group of active young professionals from different sectors of the business community. Our mission with Young Professionals Board is to work together as a community to make an impact for all individuals with intellectual disabilities within Illinois and the world. The Young Professionals Board is devoted to ensuring change within the community through philanthropy and volunteer work that truly makes a chance. Young Professionals Board ensures to support SOILL through strategic partnerships, fundraisers, or events. YPB believes in growing awareness for the mission while growing a local network of professional volunteers for Special Olympics Illinois. For more information about Young Professionals Board, please visit soill.org/ypb/



FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

@SPECIALOLYMPICSILLINOIS