



2018 Annual Report

**Special
Olympics**
Kansas



SPECIAL OLYMPICS KANSAS MISSION

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide 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.



2018 HIGHLIGHTS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The first Special Olympics games were held at Soldier Field in Chicago, Illinois, on July 20, 1968, with six athletes from Kansas participating.

In 2018, we celebrated 50 years of Special Olympics with other programs from around the world. To commemorate the 50th anniversary, Special Olympics held a celebration at Soldier Field on the anniversary of the first games. Several athletes from Kansas attended the 50th anniversary celebration as well as Special Olympics Kansas President/CEO John Lair and Senior Vice President of Program Operations Tim Rehder.

We also sent a Unified men's soccer team with athletes from Kansas and Missouri to Chicago to compete in the first-ever Special Olympics Unified Cup. This international soccer tournament showcased the unifying power of sport on a global stage. Spectators were there to see 24 men's and women's Unified soccer teams from around the world compete. The team from Kansas and Missouri competed in a bracket with teams from Ecuador, China, and Germany. Ecuador went on to win the men's final 1-0 over Uruguay.

USA GAMES ISSUE CHALLENGE TO RISE WITH US

Special Olympics Kansas sent 42 athletes and six coaches to the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle, Washington, July 1-6. Kansas athletes competed in powerlifting, athletics, bocce, bowling, swimming and tennis. We also had an all-female basketball team from Manhattan, Kansas, and a Unified interscholastic soccer team from Bonner Springs compete in the games.

The games, held on the University of Washington Campus, featured 3,500 athletes, 1,000 coaches and delegates, 10,000 volunteers, 10,000 family and friends, and 50,000 spectators. ESPN carried live coverage of the games as well as nightly recaps of the games.

MISSION PARTNERS



**ROYALS
CHARITIES**



An Anthem Company



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson - Glen Grunwald, Hutchinson
Chairperson Elect - Allan Henderson, Topeka
Past Chairperson - Mark Malick, Texas
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Athlete Representative - Josh Alters, Topeka
LETR Representative - Adam Taylor, Prairie Village
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Jeff Bragg, Olathe
John Cassidy, Overland Park
Dan Dolan, Leawood
BJ Harris, Lenexa
Rick Jones, Prairie Village
Tim Klein, Abilene
Tonia Lee, Topeka
Elena Lincoln, Strong City
Amy Loder, Spearville
David Nichols, Topeka
Cory Powell, Overland Park
Travis Salmon, Shawnee

STAFF

President/CEO - John Lair
Sr. Vice President Program Operations - Tim Rehder
Sr. Vice President Development & LETR - Luke Schulte
Sr. Vice President Communications - Heather Waters
Vice President Health & Community Outreach - Chris Burt
North Central Region Director - Krystin Guggisberg
KC Metro & Southeast Region Director - Terri Price
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Asst. Director of Finance - Sheri Stanton
Executive Assistant - Lynda Krupp
Program Operations Manager - Michele Johnson
Athlete Records Manager - Linda Hunt
Director of Grants & Development - Erin Fletcher
Director of Development - Mitch Guthrie
Special Events Coordinator - Cougar Gray

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



YOUNG ATHLETES

Special Olympics Young Athletes is a sport and play program for children with and without intellectual disabilities (ID), ages 2 to 7 years old. Young Athletes introduces basic sport skills, like running, kicking and throwing. Young Athletes offers families, teachers, caregivers and people from the community the chance to share the joy of sports with all children.

In 2018, we continued to offer Young Athlete programs in three communities: Lawrence (KC Metro Region), Overland Park (KC Metro Region) and Wichita (South Central Region).



HEALTHY ATHLETES®

The Healthy Athletes program is an initiative developed by Special Olympics Inc., with a mission of improving the overall health of our athletes through various health screenings. People with intellectual disabilities have a 40 percent greater risk for various health issues. Healthy Athlete programs offer our athletes improved health in an environment focused on the needs of individuals with intellectual disabilities.

In 2018, we offered 4 disciplines at 5 clinics. The disciplines included Health Promotions, Healthy Hearing, Opening Eyes and Special Smiles. A total of 319 athletes were screened through the various clinics.



UNIFIED SPORTS®

Team sports bring people together. Special Olympics Unified Sports® teams do that too and much more. About 1.4 million people worldwide take part in Unified Sports, breaking down stereotypes about people with intellectual disabilities in a really fun way. ESPN has served as the Global Presenting Sponsor of Special Olympics Unified Sports since 2013, supporting the growth and expansion of this program that empowers individuals with and without intellectual disabilities to engage through the power of sports.



In 2018, Special Olympics Kansas continued to develop Unified Sports programs. We offered five Unified sports - basketball, soccer, golf, bocce and volleyball. We had a total of 471 athletes and 390 partners play those five sports over the course of 11 competitions.

In July, we sent a Unified men's soccer team to Chicago to participate in the Special Olympics Unified Cup. The team was made up of athletes and partners from Special Olympics Kansas and Special Olympics Missouri.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



ATHLETE INPUT COUNCIL

The Kansas Athlete Input Council (KSAIC) is a way for Special Olympics Kansas leaders to be in touch with athlete interests and opinions on needed improvements, sports, competitions, coaching and other programs. It is a place for athletes to practice leadership skills, and a way for athletes to provide input and feedback to and from schools, group homes, day training programs and other athletes.

Each athlete on the KSAIC has a mentor who helps the athlete prepare for meetings and work on speaking and listening skills prior to meetings. Meetings are led by the chairperson and held using parliamentary procedure. Meetings are held monthly either in person or via conference call.

The KSAIC began in 2018 thanks to a generous grant from Bank of America.



UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS BANNER AWARD

A Special Olympics Unified Champion School demonstrating commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence receives national banner recognition. A Special Olympics Unified Champion School has an inclusive school climate and exudes a sense of collaboration, engagement and respect for all members of the student body and staff. The primary activities within these standards include: Special Olympics Unified Sports® (where students with and without disabilities train and compete as teammates), Inclusive Youth Leadership and Whole-School Engagement.

In 2018, Kansas had its first two schools recognized as National Banner Unified Champion Schools: Bonner Springs High School and Robert E. Clark Middle School, both schools are in Bonner Springs Unified School District 204.

OTHER 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- ~ 11 Polar Plunge events were held throughout the state
- ~ 29th annual John L. Cassidy Heartland Winter Games were held in Weston, MO, Jan. 24-26
- ~ State Basketball and Cheerleading competition took place in Hays March 16-17 and in Topeka March 23-24
- ~ Truck convoys were held in northwest and southwest
- ~ State Powerlifting took place April 29 in Lawrence
- ~ The 49th state Summer Games took place in Maize June 1-3
- ~ The first Spikes and Strikes volleyball & bowling tournament took place Aug. 3-4 replacing the Fall Sports Classic
- ~ Royals catcher Salvador Perez signed autographs at the SOKS Headquarters on Aug. 25
- ~ The Charles E Watson Softball and Golf tournament saw golf action on Oct. 5, but due to weather softball was canceled.
- ~ KSLETR hosted the first Johnson County memorabilia auction for SOKS on Oct. 20; Chiefs player Spencer Ware signed autographs at the event
- ~ The annual State Soccer and Bocce event was canceled due to weather
- ~ KU held the annual Wilt Chamberlain basketball clinic for athletes
- ~ K-State held its first football clinic for athletes in addition to the annual spring sports clinic
- ~ Kansas legislature passed a bill allowing the creation of a Special Olympics Kansas specialty license plate
- ~ President/CEO John Lair and athlete Josh Alters attended Capitol Hill Day in Washington DC

AWARDS AND HONORS

Hall of Fame Inductees

Josh Alters

Topeka Shawnee

Josh has been part of Special Olympics for 33 years. He is an athlete and a Global Messenger. He has served on the KSLETR Executive Council and currently serves on the Special Olympics Kansas Board of Directors. His positive attitude and sportsmanship serve as a model for all athletes both on and off the field.

Casey Hostetler

Haysville Hornets

Casey has been a Special Olympics Kansas athlete for 16 years; she participates in sports all year round. She is an accomplished athlete who was named the 2017-18 Big 12 Conference Female Athlete of the Year. Casey is also a leader in her community. She works as a courtesy clerk at a local grocery store and volunteers for the ARC of Sedgwick County in her free time.

Glenn Peetoom

Air Capitol Flyers

Glenn has participated in Special Olympics for more than 45 years! He likes to compete and encourage his teammates to do their best. When Glenn isn't able to compete he still attends events to motivate his teammates and let them know if they are doing their best they are winners and should hold their heads high.

Kelli Bringle

Hutchinson All Stars

Kelli is an inspirational athlete who takes time to encourage others with words and hugs. She participates in summer sports but enjoys working on her skills with family and coaches throughout the year. She always has a smile and positive attitude and is always ready to help other athletes or her coaches whenever there is a need.

Ronald Jones

Wichita Independents

Ronald has been competing for 20 years with Special Olympics Kansas. He is always ready to lend a helping hand to his teammates and coaches and he balances competing in several events throughout the year with his full time job. Ronald works out three times a week to keep in shape and he is described as an all-around player with a great attitude.

Jackie Smith

Harvey County Wildcats

Jackie was one of the founding members of her team in the 1980s. She has played a variety of sports throughout the years and still plays basketball today. Jackie is a great competitor and a positive role model for her team. She is always there to give an encouraging word or high five to her teammates.

Janet Degan

Topeka Jr. Blues

This award is being given to Janet in memoriam. Janet was an inspiration to her team, other Special Olympics athletes and coaches. She competed in almost every sport and practiced every chance she got. She wasn't afraid to try anything with a big heart and open attitude. She gave every sport, every event and every minute her very best.

Michael Kanter

Blue Valley Blue Streaks

Michael has participated in nine sports in Special Olympics Kansas over the last 29 years. His positive attitude and work ethic with his coaches, teammates, and others he comes in contact with is contagious. He is a leader on his team and his willingness to learn and grow as a person and athlete is inspirational to others.

Brady Tanner

Douglas County Jayhawks

Brady's positive energy is felt everywhere he goes. He has been involved with Special Olympics for 29 years and he spends about 575 hours each year training for competitions! He participates in sports year round and he is the first Special Olympics athlete inducted into the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame!

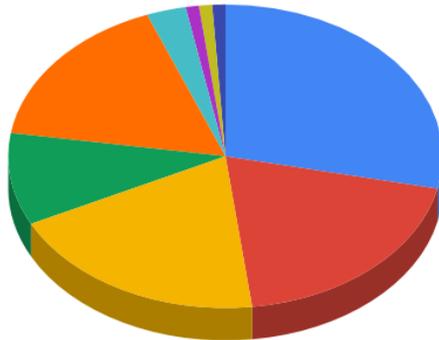
Making A Difference Award Recipients

Coach of the Year Dave Swift, Blue Valley
Family of the Year Skylar Morgan/Erika Wilson family
Special Event Volunteer of the Year Cathy Butler, Topeka Jr. Blues
Program Volunteer of the Year Fred Beat, KS Air National Guard
Sgt. Dave Nienstedt, Wichita Police Department
Business of the Year Jeff Lavery, KC Supply Company

FINANCIALS

Special Olympics Kansas Unaudited Statement of Revenues and Expenses Year Ending December 31, 2018

Revenues



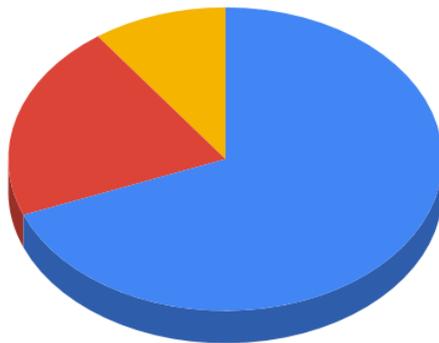
REVENUES

Donations	\$741,310
Foundations/Grants	\$437,097
Game Sponsors	\$255,873
Investment Income	(\$26,455)
Interest	\$10,652
LETR	\$503,004
Merchandise	\$18,534
Program Assessment	\$88,102
Special Events	\$492,975
TOTAL	\$2,521,093

IN-KIND VALUES

Product	\$373,483
Volunteers	\$4,544,456
TOTAL	\$4,917,939

Expenses



TOTAL REVENUES \$7,439,032

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$1,550,473
Fundraising	\$469,545
Mgmt & General	\$234,336
TOTAL	\$2,254,354

Change in Net Assets **\$266,739**



Special Olympics *Kansas*

Energized by the pride and power of teamwork, Special Olympics Kansas provides individuals with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to be an athlete, and so much more, through acceptance, inclusion, physical fitness, health and nutrition programs, and leadership development.

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