



Special Olympics
Michigan

Special Olympics Michigan

Area 22 – Saginaw and Shiawassee Counties

Special Olympics Michigan Facts

20,679 athletes

23 sports offered

8 state-level competitions, statewide regional basketball tournaments and 447 area-level competitions

Training and competitions are year-round

20,000 volunteers

Program provided at no cost to athletes or their families

Budget funded entirely by private donations

Area 22 Facts

820 athletes

149 Young Athletes

400 volunteers

Area 22 offers the following sports programs:

Alpine Skiing
Aquatics
Athletics (Track & Field)
Basketball
Bowling
Bocce
Cross-Country
Skiing
Cycling
Gymnastics
Poly Hockey
Snowshoe
Soccer
Softball
Volleyball

OUR MISSION

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.

OUR GOAL

To help persons with intellectual disabilities participate as productive and respected members of society at large, by offering them a fair opportunity to develop and demonstrate their skills and talents through sports training and competition, and by increasing the public's awareness of their capabilities and needs.

THE BENEFITS

Athletes who participate in Special Olympics improve physical fitness and motor skills, develop self-esteem and confidence, make friends and increase family support. Special Olympics athletes carry these benefits with them into their daily lives at home, in the classroom and on the job. Families become stronger as they learn a greater appreciation of their athlete's abilities and community volunteers find out what a good friend athletes can be.

FUNDING

Special Olympics Michigan is a non-profit organization supported almost entirely by private funding and without the support of state funds. Generosity of organizations, individuals, and businesses enable the program to continue, which was a \$6.5 million effort in 2010. Area 22 has an annual budget of \$47,000 that funds year-round programs for the athletes.

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Special Olympic programs are offered in all 83 counties in Michigan. Area 22 encompasses all of Saginaw and Shiawassee Counties. Area 22 currently has an average of 820 athletes involved in the program, 149 are in the Young Athletes™ Program.

VOLUNTEERS

More than 20,000 volunteers contribute their time, energy and expertise to make the Special Olympics program a reality in Michigan. Area 22 relies on the dedicated support of volunteers who offer their time and talents in a number of ways, including coaching, chaperoning athletes at events, assisting with fund raising, and helping run local events and games.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Special Olympics Michigan training and competition is open to every person with intellectual disabilities who registers to participate in Special Olympics as required by the Special Olympics General Rules.

AREA 22 MANAGEMENT TEAM

Area Director Joe Bronz
AAD Linda Elwart - Shiawassee County
Fund Development Jose Mendoza
Fund Development Trish Bronz
Public Relations Ricardo Gallegos
Public Relations Trish Bronz
Outreach Carol VanArsdale
Coach Rep. Jim Jones- Saginaw
Coach Rep. Don Elwart - Shiawassee
Volunteer Rep Sue Zelinko
School Liaison Carol VanArsdale
School Liaison Sue Zelinko

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