



Michigan

23,033 athletes

24 sports offered

6 state-level competitions, 4 district basketball tournaments and more than 600 local competitions

Year-round sports training and competitions

Over 200 Unified Champion Schools

31,606 volunteers

Programs provided at no cost to athletes or their families

Budget funded almost entirely by private donations

Sports include:

Alpine Skiing
Athletics
Basketball
Bocce
Bowling
Cross-Country Skiing
Cycling
Figure Skating
Flag Football
Golf
Gymnastics (Artistic & Rhythmic)
Handball
Horseshoes
Kayaking
Poly Hockey
Powerlifting
Snowboarding
Snowshoeing
Soccer
Softball
Speed Skating
Swimming
Volleyball
Weightlifting

*Plus: Unified Sports®

Healthy Athletes®

Young Athletes™

Motor Activities Training Program

OUR MISSION

- The mission of Special Olympics Michigan is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities.
- Sport provides athletes a path to empowerment and opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, showcase their abilities, and experience inclusion, acceptance, respect, dignity, joy and friendship.
- The athletes achieve their dreams with the support of caring volunteers, coaches, family members and staff. Donations from Michigan citizens and businesses provide funding for the program.

ATHLETE PARTICIPANTS & COMMUNITIES

- At competitions athletes are placed into divisions based on age, gender, and ability. Competitions take place at local, regional, state, national and world levels.
- For a small investment in sports equipment and volunteers' time, Special Olympics has the potential to become a vehicle for bringing people together, changing attitudes and engaging a portion of the community that is otherwise forgotten.
- In the United States, 52 percent of Special Olympics athletes are employed; approximately half of these athletes are "competitively employed" – employed alongside people without intellectual disabilities.

HEALTHY ATHLETES® PROGRAM

- For more than a decade, the Healthy Athletes® program has offered free health screenings and information to athletes. And in the process, Special Olympics has become the largest public health organization dedicated to serving people with intellectual disabilities in the world.

YOUNG ATHLETES™

- The Young Athletes™ program introduces children ages 2 to 7 years old with intellectual disabilities to the world of sports; engaging them in activities designed to foster physical, cognitive and social development while also welcoming family members to the Special Olympics Network.

Unified Champion Schools

- Students across Michigan take part in Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools, which uses sports and education programs to change school culture while nurturing respect, dignity, advocacy and friendship between those with and without intellectual disabilities.
- Unified Champion Schools helps build better communities. It consists of three core activities involving students with and without intellectual disabilities: Inclusive Sports, Youth Leadership & Advocacy and Whole-School Engagement.

FUNDING

- Special Olympics Michigan is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization supported almost entirely through corporate funding and individual gifts. All Special Olympics Michigan programs and activities are available at no cost to Michigan athletes or their families. The generosity of Michigan organizations, individuals, and statewide businesses enable the program to continue.

To donate call (800) 644-6404, mail a check to: **Special Olympics Michigan**, and send to us at Special Olympics Michigan, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48859; or donate online at www.somi.org

