

YOUR DONATION MATTERS

Special Olympics Virginia's mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community, all at NO cost to the athlete or their family.

How will your donation be used at the state level?

- Direct support for Area programs is provided by nine Region Directors, offering administrative guidance, organizational expertise, volunteer training and program resources.
- Additional full and part time staff support statewide competition coordination, resource development, training and operational oversight, and Area online fundraising setup, allowing local programs to focus on direct athlete and community engagement.
- Maintain administrative, legal and insurance needs of Special Olympics Virginia to protect athletes and volunteers.
- Manage financial accounting services for Areas to ensure all guidelines, policies and procedures are met.
- Invest in technology improvements to increase efficiencies with online registration, RTPs, Council athlete management, etc.
- Organize, manage and implement state and region competitions.
- Reduce and eliminate fees to Area programs for attendance at state and region competitions.
 - Examples: on average, state games cost \$285 per attendee but state fundraising keeps the Area registration fee low at \$45-\$65 per attendee (depending on the event).
 - Almost all Fall Championships registration fees are supported by the Knights of Columbus partnership
- Cover cost of USA and World Games team fees (previously, Areas paid \$500 per athlete attending these games)
- Provide athlete leadership opportunities and training, enabling athletes to serve as spokespeople for their Area programs.
- Organize Healthy Athletes screenings for athletes and provide free glasses, hearing aids, mouthguards, dental care and other services.
- Implement Unified Champion Schools programming to prepare the next generation of athletes and volunteers to sustain Area programs.
- Implement statewide fitness programming (beyond the traditional practices), so athletes can live healthier, longer lives, despite the challenging health statistics they face.
- Brand awareness and marketing support statewide, including the development of marketing resources, promotional materials, and tools to support local and area programs
- Outreach and recruitment support to expand participation among athletes, volunteers and the community