



2017 Annual Report

www.SpecialOlympicsArizona.org

The Vision of Special Olympics

Special Olympics is an unprecedented global movement, which, through quality sports training and competition, improves the lives of people with intellectual disabilities, and, in turn, the lives of everyone they touch.

Special Olympics empowers people with intellectual disabilities to realize their full potential and develop their skills through year-round sports training and competition.

As a result, Special Olympics athletes become fulfilled and productive members of their families and the communities in which they live.

Special Olympics is an experience that is energizing, healthy, skillful, welcoming and joyful.

Today, Special Olympics stands as a leader in the field of intellectual disability and has sharpened the focus on its mission as not just "nice," but critical, not just as a sports organization for people with intellectual disabilities, but also as an effective catalyst for social change. Children and adults with intellectual disabilities, who participate in Special Olympics exhibit boundless courage and enthusiasm, enjoy the rewards of friendship and ultimately discover not only new abilities and talents but "their voices" as well.

Philosophy

Special Olympics is founded on the belief that people with intellectual disabilities can, with proper instruction and encouragement, learn, enjoy and benefit from participation in individual and team sports.

Special Olympics believes that consistent training is essential to the development of sports skills, and that competition among those of equal abilities is the most appropriate means of testing these skills, measuring progress and providing incentives for personal growth.

Special Olympics believes that through sports training and competition, people with intellectual disabilities benefit physically, mentally, socially and spiritually; families are strengthened; and the community at large, both through participation and observation, is united in understanding people with intellectual disabilities in an environment of equality, respect and acceptance.

Dear Special Olympics Arizona Family

2017 prevailed with tremendous growth in our sport and health programs. We were able to provide services for over 25,000 athletes statewide. Our volunteers worked endless hours to put on sport competitions, health screenings and health education for athletes and families. New programs started in Unified Arts, Unified Gardening and Unified Music, bringing additional inclusionary opportunities for those with Intellectual Disabilities.

Our school based Unified Sports program reached into 233 school campus's statewide reaching over 356,000 students. We continue to build this momentum in the 2017-2018 school year working with administrators, teachers and coaches. We continue to educate new schools and communities on our programs and train additional coaches and volunteers in Unified Sports while working with people with intellectual disabilities to allow for better sports training, coaching and most of all better health for our athletes.

Thank you to all our athletes, families, volunteers, donors and partners. We could not have this growth and success without your support!

Sincerely,











**Jamie Heckerman
Interim CEO**



The mission of Special Olympics Arizona (SOAZ) 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.

DASH BOARD as of 12/31/2017

<p>ATHLETES/ UNIFIED PARTNERS/ YOUNG ATHLETES 25,000</p> 	<p>COMPETITIONS 675</p> 	<p>MORE THAN 1,000 COACHES, HEAD OF DELEGATIONS, CHAPERONES</p> 	<p>DAY OF EVENT VOLUNTEERS- 22,643 VOLUNTEER HOURS- 150,604</p> 
<p>23 SPORTS OFFERED</p> 	<p>FREE TO PARTICIPATE FOR ALL REGISTERED ATHLETES</p> 	<p>PROGRAMS OFFERED IN 6 REGIONAL AREAS ACROSS ALL OF ARIZONA</p> 	<p>95% OF EVERY DOLLAR GOES DIRECTLY TO PROGRAMS & COMPETITIONS</p> 

Support Programs

Athlete Leadership Program®



Healthy Athletes®



Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Arizona



Unified Champion Schools



Young Athletes Program™



“Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.”



Programs Overview

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Includes Athlete Input Council, Athlete Employment Project, and SOAR (Special Olympics Advocacy Resources)

To learn more about the Athlete Leadership Program, [click here](#).

HEALTH PROGRAMS

Includes Healthy LEAP (Lifestyle Education at Practice), Healthy Athletes, SOfit, and the Health Leadership Committee

To learn more about all the Health Programs, [click here](#).

LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS ARIZONA

To learn about the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Arizona, [click here](#).

UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS®

Includes Unified Sports®, Inclusive Youth Leadership, and Whole School Engagement

To learn more about Unified Champion Schools®, [click here](#).

YOUNG ATHLETES PROGRAM™

To learn more about the Young Athletes Program™, [click here](#).



Sports and Competitions

TRADITIONAL SPORTS TRAINING AND COMPETITION

Special Olympics Arizona offers training and competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities who are 8 years or older in 21 sports: Alpine Skiing, Aquatics, Athletics, Basketball, Bocce, Bowling, Cheerleading, Cross Country Skiing, Equestrian, Figure Skating, Flag Football, Floor Hockey, Golf, Powerlifting, Snowboarding, Snowshoeing, Soccer, Softball, Speed Skating, Tennis, and Volleyball. Currently, there are more than 250 delegations across Arizona serving 25,000 participants. To learn more, [click here](#).



UNIFIED SPORTS®

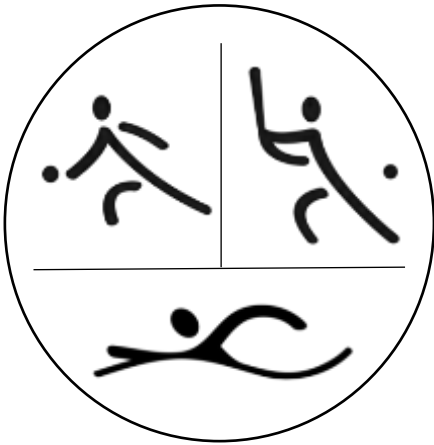
Unified Sports® is an inclusive program, which combines individuals with intellectual disabilities (athletes) and individuals without intellectual disabilities (unified partners) on sports teams for training and competition. Athletes and partners compete alongside one another, each in a meaningful and integral role on the Unified Sports® team, creating unique teammate bonds through sports experiences similar to any other sports team. Participation in Unified Sports® leads to new friendships, improved self-esteem and positive changes in attitude, behavior and performance. To learn more, [click here](#)



AREA COMPETITIONS

Special Olympics Arizona requires athletes to train for a minimum of 8 weeks before registering for area or regional competitions. Participation at the area level is required for statewide competitions. More than 100 area sports competitions are held annually throughout Arizona. To learn more about the areas, [click here](#).

State and Regional Competitions



FALL GAMES

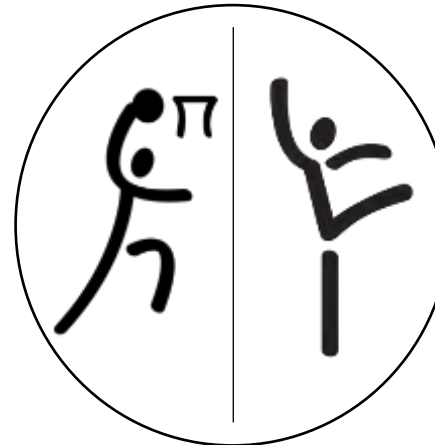
were split into two competitions in 2017. The Fall Classic, held in Peoria in October, had 723 athletes and 175 partners compete in bocce, softball and golf.

The State Swim competition, held in Goodyear in October, had 625 athletes and 61 partners compete.



FLAG FOOTBALL REGIONALS

were held in Glendale, AZ in March. Teams from all over Arizona competed on the Arizona Cardinals practice field, bringing over 213 athletes and 58 partners.



STATE BASKETBALL AND CHEER

took place in Tucson, AZ in March. 1,075 athletes and 137 partners participated. Basketball events include skills competitions, 3-on-3 games and 5-on-5 games. Cheerleading features team competition, as well as dance.



SUMMER GAMES

were held in Glendale, AZ in May. This three-day competition featured 1,039 athletes, 150 partners and five sports: athletics, powerlifting, tennis and volleyball.

In Their Own Words

Trey Leveque, Unified Partner & Barrett Honors Student:

"My involvement with SOAZ has allowed me to be a catalyst for social change in my community. Every time I volunteer, I see the impact this organization has on its Athletes. I have volunteered and participated at our Summer Games & Fall Classic, as well as Healthy Athletes screenings, Fuel of Dreams, Breakfast with Champions and Over the Edge and more! By volunteering at these special events, I have been changed forever by the outstanding athletes I have met. I am extremely honored to be part of our Inclusive Youth Leadership program and feel empowered to promote inclusion on my campus and within my community. I am honored to be a part of this inclusive movement and encourage everyone to get involved in some way because it will truly change your life!"



David Frohme, Special Olympics Athlete and Silver & Bronze Medalist:

In 1984 David got his first taste of Special Olympics when he volunteered at a Track & Field meet. From that moment on, David knew that he wanted to compete. In 1999 David won a bronze medal as part of the 4 x 100 M Relay Team at the Special Olympics World Games in North Carolina. Today, he competes in Track & Field, Basketball, Aquatics and is looking forward to playing Bocce this year. "Participating in Special Olympics means competing with my friends and it doesn't matter if you win or lose, you just have a great time competing with your friends." In 2017, David took his support of SOAZ to new heights. Over The Edge is a fundraising event in which people raise \$1,000 to rappel off of the 27 story CityScape building in downtown Phoenix. David had so much fun doing this that he is doing it again in December!





2016 Board of Directors

Board Chair: Douglas Steel – City of Peoria Police Department

Board Officers: Tom O'Malley – JDM Partners, LLC, Past Chair

Jim Pitman – Phoenix Suns, Treasurer

Susan Boswell – Quarles & Brady LLP, Secretary

Lynda Christel – Mayo Clinic, Vice President of Health Programs

Chas Harvick – FTI Consulting, Executive Committee Member at large

Cullen Maxey – Arizona Diamondbacks, Engagement Committee, Chair

Board Members:

Raymond Brown, Community leader

David Funkhouser, Quarles & Brady LLP

Tom Hatton, Mountainside Fitness

Robin Lea-Amos, Arizona Sports & Tourism Authority

Jeff Moloznik, Red Development

Steve Mullins, iHeart Radio Media

Sheila Schmidt, Ryan Companies

Amy Chriswell Pawlowski, UnitedHealth Group, United
Healthcare

Bryan Szilagyi, McGladrey

Dr. Rena Szabo, Banner Medical Group

Michael Warren, Ellsworth & Warren Family Dentistry

Ryan Duncan, Nathan & Associates Inc.

Greg Geist, Wells Fargo

Todd Jones, Snell & Wilmer LLP

Christi Lundeen, Mercy Care Plan

Darren Moore, UPS

Rudy Sleiman, Deloitte

Eric Schechter, Great American Merchandise & Events

Naman Shah, Neudesic LLC

James Stover, Cenpatco Integrated Care

David Sweiderk, One AZ Credit Union

James Tucker, SOAZ athlete & Global Messenger

Barry Saunders, Express Interlock LLC

Thank you for all that you do!



Advisory Leadership Councils

Four Peaks Area

Maria Baier, Phoenix Suns
Anne Marie Cruz, Zoyo Neighborhood Yogurt
Zachary Cumnard, Chandler Police Department
Pamela Edelstein, Shea Homes
Pam Giannonatti, Fry's Food Stores
Debbie Hillman, Mercy Care Plan
Otto Hinks, Quarles & Brady
Trisha Larson, Morgan Stanley
Robert Schiller, Zoyo Neighborhood Yogurt
Richard Swetonic, Moss Adams

Palo Verde Area

Commander Richard Bradshaw, Glendale Police Department
Maria Brunner, Arizona State Credit Union
Brandon Buchanan, Coca-Cola
Matt Schott, Arizona Coyotes
Pamela Kraatz, Arizona Department of Corrections

Mountain Area

Jennifer Brown, Flagstaff Police Department
Taylor Custer, Northland Rural Therapy Associates
Travis Joralmon, McCullough Insurance
Samantha Kretchel, Naked Mobile
Matthew McIntire, Behavioral Consultation Services, Inc
Jennifer Morrison-Garcia, Yavapai County Sheriff's Department
Cari Murphy, All Star Grand Canyon Tours
Jerry Nabours, City of Flagstaff Mayor
Sabrena Oviatt, Naked Mobile
Becky Raabe, Arizona Department of Education
Neil Wesson, OneAZ Credit Union



Advisory Leadership Councils

Coronado Area

Susan Boswell, Quarles & Brady LLP
Ana Bustamante, Tucson Electric Power
Jeff Clemons, KVOA TV; News 4
Stuart Holmes, Wells Fargo Private Bank
Dr. Jim Kerwin, University of Arizona Department of Family &
Community Medicine
David Luera, Arizona State Credit Union
Allan Mendelsberg, PICOR Commercial Real Estate Services
Matt Mueller, Bank of the West
Lori Moore, Tucson Elks Lodge; Walgreens
Skya Nelson, Global Creative & Brand Strategy
Koren Sherrick, Humana
James Stover, University of Arizona Health Plans
Gena Toumey, Tucson Police Department
Larry Watts, Larry H Miller Chrysler Jeep Tucson
Patricia Watts, Larry H Miller Chrysler Jeep Tucson

River Area

Alex Bejarano, Regional Center for Border Health
Timothy Best, U.S. Customs & Border Protection
Bonnie Bledsoe, Wells Fargo Bank
Al Brockley, Yuma Palms RV Resort
Betina DeAnda, Wells Fargo Bank
Isabel Kaliko, Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Luis Marquez, San Luis Police Department
Wayne Rooks, Homewood Suites by Hilton Hotel
Abraham Sandoval, Arizona Department of Corrections
Cory Williams, Yuma Police Department
Kathy Wyer, Desert Care Associates

Monument Area

David Adams, Arizona Department of Corrections
David Bell, Eastern Arizona Courier
Wendy Bolinger, Department of Economic Security
Joshua Brantner, Arizona Department of Corrections
Brian Capolla, Eastern Arizona College
Royce Hunt, SEACUS
Jennifer Surber, Department of Economic Security

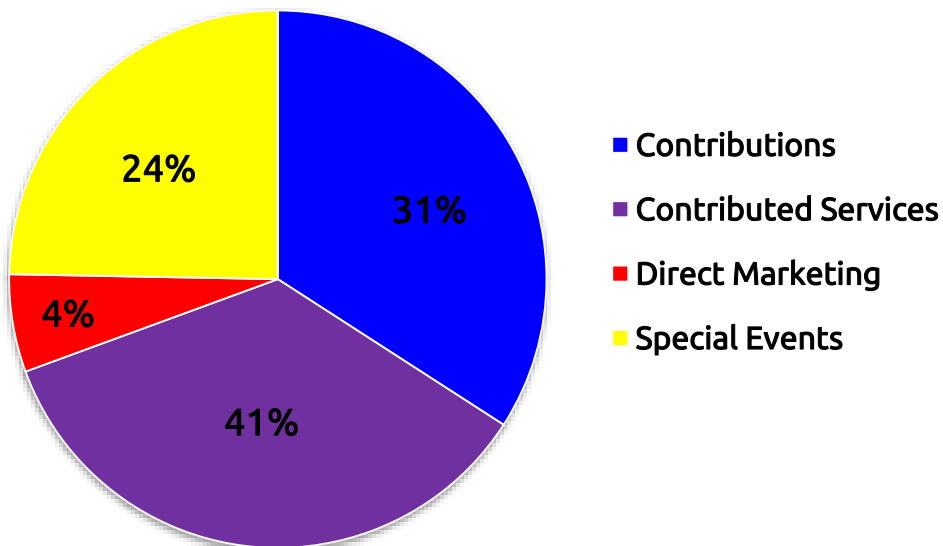
2016 Financial Review

In 2017, Special Olympics Arizona's overall revenue was over \$10 million, including in-kind donations.

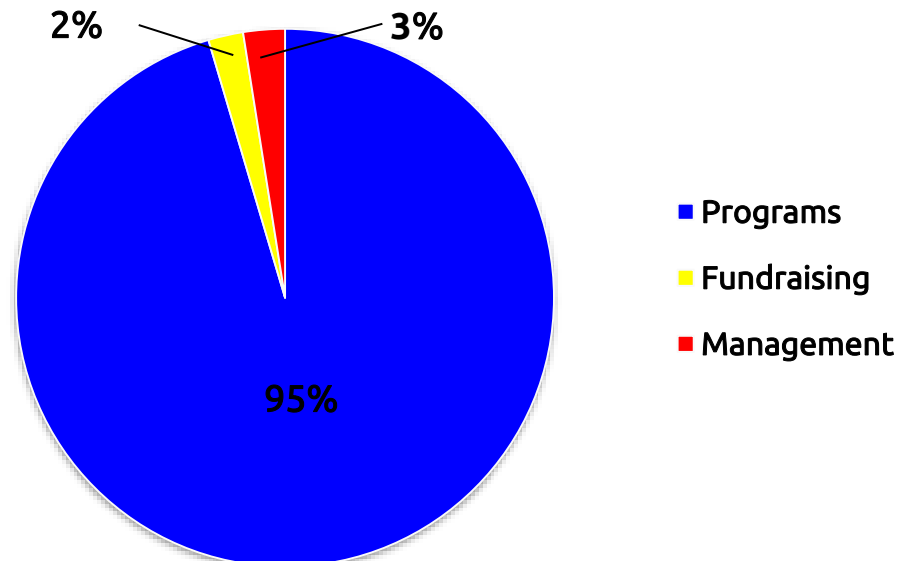
Total expenses were \$9.3 million with 95% of every dollar going towards programs and activities benefitting Special Olympics Arizona athletes.

Net assets resulted in over \$4.9 million.

2017 Funding Sources



2017 Funding Uses



How to Support SOAZ

Cash Donations

Operating our program requires a considerable amount of unrestricted cash donations to fund our year-round programs. 95 cents of every dollar directly supports the athletes. Ask your employer to match your donation and your gift to us is doubled!

Planned Giving

Special Olympics has complimentary information that can help you plan or update your will. Our free materials describe the process of estate planning, provides valuable tools, and a glossary of terms to guide your planning toward a financial foundation for the future. If you have any questions on how to include Special Olympics in your estate plans, contact us toll-free at (866)690-3951 or email us at plannedgiving@specialolympics.org.

Volunteer

Special Olympics Arizona would not exist today without the time, energy, commitment and enthusiasm of the volunteers. Volunteering for Special Olympics Arizona can create a lifetime of friendships and rewards of immeasurable value, both for you and the athletes inspired by your time and dedication.



Charitable Tax Credit

In Arizona, you have the power to choose how your tax dollars are spent. Your donation to SOAZ can reduce the amount you owe dollar-by-dollar. Your generous gift of any amount will provide increased opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities across the state.

Get Your SOAZ License Plate Today

You can purchase an SOAZ branded State of Arizona license plate for \$25, with \$17 from each plate sold benefiting SOAZ programs. These plates can be personalized for an additional fee.

Thank you for your support!



For more ways to support Special Olympics Arizona, visit www.specialolympicsarizona.org.

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