



Special Olympics Mississippi



Special Olympics Mississippi provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults who have intellectual disabilities.

Our mission is to provide athletics-based programs that allow these individuals 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 their communities.

Special Olympics founder Eunice Kennedy Shriver saw the need for a full program to help intellectually disabled citizens achieve their goals, gain confidence and become part of a larger community when she established the first chapter in the state in 1968.

Officially chartered in 1975, Special Olympics Mississippi now creates these transformative opportunities for thousands of athletes throughout the state.

Special Olympics is a year-round commitment to our citizens who have intellectual disabilities.



Special Olympics Mississippi athletes and programs are supported by donations and grants, not by participation fees.

More than 4,000 active athletes

18 Sports Programs

More than 50 competitions every year

17 Multi-County Regions

Supported by thousands of volunteers, donors and supporters

Mississippi has joined the Special Olympics Unified Sports programs movement, which joins people with and without intellectual disabilities as teammates in the same sport.

Inspired by a simple principle — that training, playing and competing together provide a quick path to understanding, acceptance and friendship — our program is proudly helping Special Olympics achieve its goal of 1 million Unified Sports teammates.

Providing more than 1.4 million free health examinations in more than 120 countries, the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes program offers health services and information to athletes in dire need.

In Mississippi, we currently offer health screenings in areas such as Health Promotion (better health and well-being), Healthy Hearing (audiology), MedFest (sports physical exam), Opening Eyes (vision) and Special Smiles (dentistry).

For more information, please visit us at www.specialolympicsms.org.

