



**INCORPORATED:** 1970

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The mission of Special Olympics Arkansas is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for all 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.

**VISION:** The Vision of Special Olympics Arkansas is to transform communities by changing lives through sports.

**ATHLETE OATH:** "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

**PARTICIPANTS:** 15,000 athletes and 13,000 Unified Young Athletes (2-7yrs).

**VOLUNTEERS:** Over 5,000 include Class A volunteers, Board Members, LETR, day of event, Coaches, etc. To volunteer please visit our website at [specialolympicsarkansas.org](http://specialolympicsarkansas.org) and click on GET INVOLVED

**SPORTS OFFERED:** 20 different Sports and 240 competitions throughout the state

**COST TO PARTICIPATE:** *FREE* of charge for all registered athletes including food, lodging, uniforms & training

**LOCAL PROGRAM:** Programs offered in 17 areas all counties participating

#### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS IMPACT ON ATHLETE**

Gain Self Confidence

Have more opportunities to socialize with non-disabled peers

Know what it is like to be part of a social network

Most athletes compete for 10 plus years

SO Athletes are 5 times more likely to hold a job or be gainfully employed than their peers who do not participate

#### **Additional Programming:**

**Athlete Leadership Program, Special Olympics Health, Unified Champion Schools, Young Athletes, Special Olympics College**

**82% of every dollar goes to program (see Special Olympics Arkansas 990 audit report)**

**Discover More: [Speicalolympicsarkansas.org](http://Speicalolympicsarkansas.org)**

It is through advancing sports excellence for all, building communities, transformative education, and Athlete Health that we are challenging mindsets and smashing stereotypes; thus leaving not only a positive impact but changing attitudes in Arkansas for life.