



Special Olympics  
Southern California



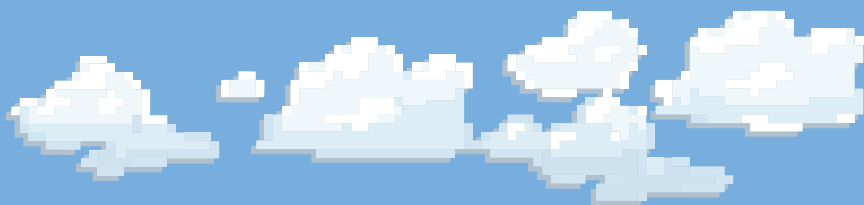
2024

# IMPACT REPORT

LET ME WIN.  
BUT IF I CANNOT WIN  
LET ME BE BRAVE  
IN THE ATTEMPT!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
ATHLETE OATH





## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO KELLY POND

In 2024, we laid a powerful foundation for the future of Special Olympics Southern California. Guided by our new strategic plan, it was a year of renewed focus, deeper engagement, and intentional growth.

We introduced a 5-region model to bring our mission closer to local communities and saw participation soar, from record-setting health screenings all the way to a doubling of registered volunteers. We expanded athlete leadership opportunities, launched new training programs, grew our coaching network, and strengthened the systems that support our athletes, families, and partners. This led to the creation of twenty-six (26) new Local Programs and Unified Champion Schools, which gives us the capacity to empower many more athletes.

Most importantly, we witnessed the heart of our movement through every athlete who competed, every student who led, and every supporter who showed up to make inclusion real.

As we look to 2025, partnerships will define our path forward. We're deepening our collaborations with athlete leaders, empowering volunteers to shape experience, and working alongside schools, coaches, and communities to expand access and belonging. Today, we're inviting you to partner with us.



Together, we can grow bigger and better. Together, we can change lives through the power of sports and inclusion.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Let's keep building together.

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**Special Olympics**  
Southern California



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# REGION MAP



**REGION 1** - San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, & Ventura Counties

**REGION 2** - Inyo, Kern, & Los Angeles Counties

**REGION 3** - Riverside & San Bernardino Counties

**REGION 4** - Orange County

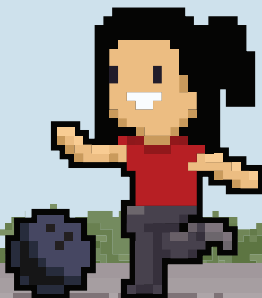
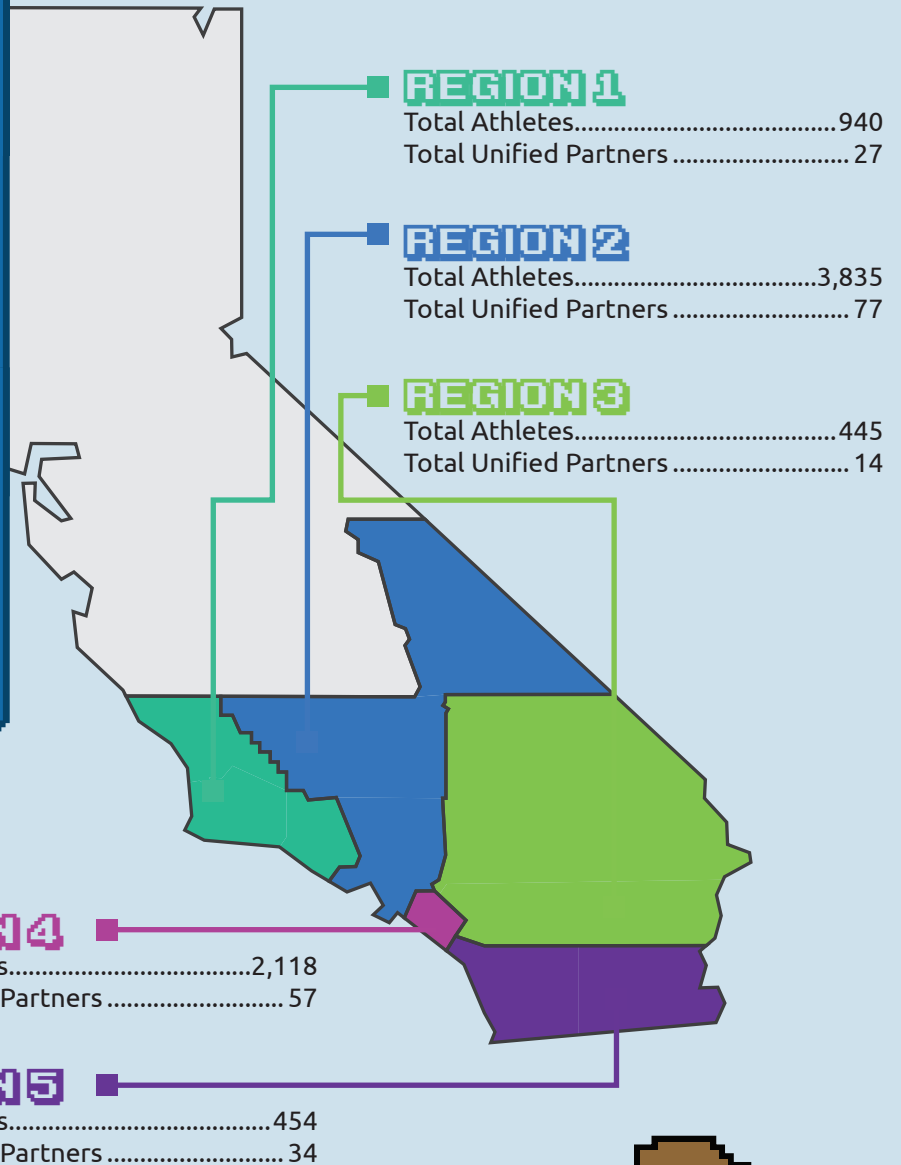
**REGION 5** - Imperial and San Bernardino Counties





My favorite part of Special Olympics is when everyone is coming together and competing together and having fun. And creating friendships that will last a lifetime. It is not about winning medals; it is also about having fun.

Manasa Iyer  
SOSC Athlete





## BREAKDOWN BY REGION

### REGION 1

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura      |     |
| Coaches / Team Volunteers.....               | 359 |
| Total Class B Volunteers .....               | 257 |
| Healthy Athletes Screenings.....             | 49  |
| Unified Champion Schools (UCS) .....         | 26  |
| Athlete Leadership Council Members.....      | 25  |
| Active Law Enforcement Agency Contacts ..... | 41  |

### REGION 2

|                                            |       |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|
| Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles                    |       |
| Coaches / Team Volunteers.....             | 1,072 |
| Total Class B Volunteers .....             | 1,443 |
| Healthy Athletes Screenings.....           | 466   |
| Unified Champion Schools (UCS) .....       | 44    |
| Athlete Leadership Council Members.....    | 0     |
| Active Law Enforcement Agency Contacts ... | 111   |

### REGION 3

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Riverside, San Bernardino                    |     |
| Coaches / Team Volunteers.....               | 274 |
| Total Class B Volunteers .....               | 227 |
| Healthy Athletes Screenings.....             | 0   |
| Unified Champion Schools (UCS) .....         | 42  |
| Athlete Leadership Council Members.....      | 0   |
| Active Law Enforcement Agency Contacts ..... | 57  |

### REGION 4

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Orange County                                |     |
| Coaches / Team Volunteers.....               | 245 |
| Total Class B Volunteers .....               | 371 |
| Healthy Athletes Screenings.....             | 76  |
| Unified Champion Schools (UCS) .....         | 52  |
| Athlete Leadership Council Members.....      | 18  |
| Active Law Enforcement Agency Contacts ..... | 48  |

### REGION 5

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Imperial, San Diego                          |     |
| Coaches / Team Volunteers.....               | 334 |
| Total Class B Volunteers .....               | 263 |
| Healthy Athletes Screenings.....             | 0   |
| Unified Champion Schools (UCS) .....         | 44  |
| Athlete Leadership Council Members.....      | 12  |
| Active Law Enforcement Agency Contacts ..... | 55  |



Special Olympics gives opportunities for fun, exercise, socialization, inclusion and friendship. The friendships formed between the athletes and families are priceless.

Beth Selbe  
Volunteer and Parent



# 2024 MILESTONES



## UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

January 15 - 18, 2024

- 205 Schools
- 80 New
- 10 Counties
- 80 Liaisons Trained in UCS
- 7,000 Unified Athletes Reached
- 11,000 Unified Partners Reached



## ATHLETE LEADERSHIP

- Record-breaking year - 9 total trainings (8 Intro to Athlete Leadership, 1 Global Messenger)
- 50 athletes trained - most ever in a single year
- Launched first full year of Athlete Leadership Council (all-athlete SOSC Board Committee)
  - 5 athletes trained for Board Committee participation
  - 2 first-ever athlete trainers certified
  - Athlete-led Opening Ceremony at Championship events - first in SOSC history
  - 80% of trainings athlete-led - highest percentage to date
  - Most staff time dedicated to Athlete Leadership - highlighting SOSC's commitment to athlete-led programming



## COACHES EDUCATION

- New online sport-specific training videos launched (soccer & softball)
- First year of in-person coaches' education across all sports & regions
- Coaches Symposium: January 18 and 19 – Over 200 coaches and staff attended

## CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

- Implemented new event standards to elevate championship experience kicked off at our 2024 Summer Games
- Implemented new event standards to elevate championship experience
- 22.43% growth in athlete participation - largest year-over-year growth in recent years



# 2024 MILESTONES



## HEALTHY ATHLETES

- Introduced new medal program to recognize athlete engagement in health screenings
- 2,822 health screenings completed in 2024

## LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN (LETR)

- February 22, 2024 Kickoff - first full year post-pandemic, foundation set for maximum participation across law enforcement agencies and SOSC staff
- LETR Summer Games Torch Run – May 2024. Nearly 300 Agencies running over 1,100 miles across hundreds of legs. \$292,000 for the Torch Run by \$1,253,446 total
- Launched new LETR events such as Float with the Flame and Fight for Inclusion (now Combat for a Cause)



## CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP

- Gallagher Unified Experience SoFi Stadium - premier activation, strengthened partnership, and positioned for expanded corporate engagement
- Partnered with Albertsons Vons Pavilions to raise \$700k in "Together we Shine" campaign raising funds for people living with disabilities
- 20 Official Corporate Sponsors

## 2024 YEAR-ROUND COMPETITION EVENTS CALENDAR

Highlighting the four sports seasons here with the 12 sports we offer.

- 68 competitions across SOSC's four regions in 2024
- March 2, 2024 - Floorball Championship, The Rinks Irvine Inline
- June 8–9, 2024 - Summer Games, CSULB, Long Beach (athletics, basketball, bocce, flag football, swimming)
- August 17, 2024 - Bowling Championship, Cal Bowl, Lakewood
- November 16–17, 2024 - Fall Games, Fountain Valley Rec Center & Sports Park (athletics, basketball, bocce, flag football, swimming)



# THANK YOU PARTNERS

## PLATINUM PARTNERS

SUPPORT LEVEL \$250,000



## GOLD PARTNERS

SUPPORT LEVEL \$100,000



Heal. Educate. Empower



Gary R. Wyma  
Trust

# FINANCIALS

Special Olympics  
Southern California



|                                                          |              |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Revenue – Including In-Kind .....                  | \$18,362,856 |
| Total Program Expenses.....                              | \$15,540,742 |
| Total UCS Direct Funding Received .....                  | \$540,499    |
| Total UCS Expenses - Including Salaries.....             | \$2,249,346  |
| Total Healthy Athlete Expenses - Including Salaries..... | \$254,350    |
| Total Healthy Athlete - Direct Funding Received .....    | \$99,938     |

Charity  
Navigator



★ FOUR-STAR ★  
2025

83% of every dollar  
spent supports and  
grows our programs

80%

