

State Conference 2017

Special
Olympics
Indiana



Saturday, October 28
Horizon Convention Center, Muncie

Special Olympics Indiana is excited to present our annual State Conference. This year we will focus on several key issues that are the pillars of the Special Olympics movement. As we work together to tackle these issues we need to keep the focus on our athletes and their opportunities to grow, learn and reach their maximum potential. We will continue to emphasize our athletes' health and fitness, discuss sports and activities to serve all our athletes, learn new ways to engage youth as volunteers, partners, or athletes and strengthen the skills of our leadership.

Please take this opportunity to make some new friends from around the state that you can contact to ask questions, share ideas and generally use as resources in your Special Olympics roles.

SCHEDULE AND SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

REGISTRATION

Full Package Registration fees cover all sessions, conference materials, Luncheon and a participant gift. No breakfast is included. Registration forms and fees are due in-house by **Monday, October 2**. Please refer to the registration form for the various cost breakdowns.

Full Conference Package:	\$50.00 <i>includes Friday Pre-Conference, Welcome Night, and Saturday Conference</i>
Conference Only Fee:	\$40.00 <i>includes Welcome Night (Friday), Saturday Conference</i>
Pre Conference ONLY:	\$20.00 <i>includes Friday Pre-Conference only, no meals</i>
SOSO Award Winner Package:	FREE, Individual Award Winner is free, Family Awards get four for free

HOUSING

A room block is reserved at the Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center. The room rate is \$109 plus tax/fees.

Courtyard Muncie
601 S High Street
Muncie, IN 47305

To make Hotel Reservation, visit the State Conference webpage on the Special Olympics Indiana website to access link .

Attendees are responsible for contacting the hotel directly to make reservations. Deadline to reserve a room is 5:00 pm on September 27. Act fast! Requests received after September 27 are subject to rate and space availability. If you have accessibility needs, please inform them when you call.

CONFIRMATIONS

Confirmation including a map and final details will be emailed to all registrants prior to the conference. In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns please contact Tracy Mortensen via email (tmortensen@soindiana.org) or phone (800-742-0612 ext. 247). *You are responsible for retaining a copy of the classes you signed up for.*

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations received before the deadline will receive a full refund; no refunds will be given after October 2.

Schedule and Session Descriptions



Friday, October 27

1:00 pm

Conference Attendee Check-in Opens

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Opening Doors Through Opportunity

Special Olympics Indiana and the Erskine Green Training Institute (EGTI) are teaming up to open doors to opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Staff from the EGTI will explain the institute's purpose and mission and provide an overview of the various vocational training programs it offers, while SOIN staff will discuss the ways in which Special Olympics is tackling similar issues and working to improve the quality of life for people with intellectual disabilities, both on and off the playing field. This special opening session includes a guided tour of the EGTI, housed within the Courtyard Marriott Hotel.

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Welcome Night

Join your hosts for an evening of socializing and networking with leaders and coaches from across the state in advance of the 2017 Indiana State Conference. Appetizers and beverages will be provided.

Saturday, October 28

8:00 am

Conference Attendee Check-in Opens

9:00 am - 10:30 am

Leveraging Leadership

Presenter: Amy Barg (On Stage 7)

Grasping the powerful implications of "the easiest, hardest part of leadership" is simple, but tough. It requires *being and doing* what you want your people to be and do. Discover how intentionally working first, hardest and longest on changing **yourself**...AND accepting responsibility for creating momentum will pave the way for you to empower others to expand and explore their own leadership potential. This session will shine a light on the importance of leveraging your own leadership growth to grow and develop others for the long-term sustainability of your organization.

10:40 am - 11:25 am

50th Anniversary

Presenters: Kelly Ries and Nathan Barnes

Founded in July, 1968, the Special Olympics movement will celebrate 50 years of breaking down barriers and transforming lives through the power of sport beginning next year. In Indiana, the celebration will continue through 2019 as we mark the anniversary of the first Indiana Special Olympics at Indiana State University. This session will provide an overview of planned 50th Anniversary activities in Indiana and around the world.

How to Start a Learn-to-Swim Program

Presenter: Patrick Kozlowski, Beth Schweigel,

Panel: Barb Cox (Delaware Co.), Lorrie Woycik (Porter Co.), David Baugh (ROD Co.), Cindy Britten (Howard Co.), Brooke Garcia (WRCC Special Needs Director), Rachel Deaton (Autism Society of Indiana), Amanda Moore (YMCA)

According to CDC statistics, 10 people in the United States die from accidental drowning *each day*. And according to the National Autism Association, drowning accounts for 91% of all accidental deaths by individuals with autism. Please join us for this informational session on the importance of learning to swim and offering a safe swim program for your athletes.

Collaborative Fundraising

Presenter: Scott Furnish

Panel: Michelle DeWitt (Washington Co.), Mary McCormack (Huntington Co.), TBD (Johnson Co.), Kanita Sirback (Franklin Co.)

Raising money to support your County Program is an essential part of leading a successful program, and Special Olympics Indiana offers revenue sharing opportunities throughout the year to help you reach your goals. Learn about how your program can get involved in statewide fundraisers including the *Run Unified Relay*, the *Polar Plunge*, and the *Plane Pull Challenge*, and get access to online fundraising tools and other resources to make your job easier. This session will include a review of the organization's most recent Revenue Sharing Policy, approved in the Fall of 2016, and will feature a panel of leaders from our most successful county fundraising programs.



Unified Fitness Clubs

Presenter: Shadreck Kamwendo

Panel: Michelle Goodin (Montgomery-Parke Co.), Kevin Aders (Johnson Co.)

Unified Fitness Clubs are bringing together people with and without intellectual disabilities throughout Indiana, emphasizing the importance of health and fitness even outside of Special Olympics competitions and providing opportunities for regular group exercise. Join us to learn how you can join or start a Unified Fitness Club in your area.

Area & County Leadership Meeting (Area Directors & County Coordinators only)

Presenters: Michael Furnish, Jeff Mohler, Beth Schweigel, Buzz Lail, Francie Smith, Julie Burkholder

Business, business, business. We're talking big-picture items with our Area & County leadership at this meeting. What's coming next for Special Olympics? Area Directors & County Coordinators are invited to join Special Olympics Indiana's CEO & COO to discuss strategic planning, new initiatives, and upcoming changes to the Special Olympics program. Join the conversation.

Unified Golf Tour, Part I

Presenter: Patrick Kozlowski

Get golf ready! Discover everything you need to know about participating in the Unified Golf Tour and take advantage of this great new opportunity for Unified Golf pairs to tour the state and play at courses they never knew existed! This session will focus on getting started, earning points, and advancing to state-level competitions. Join us for Part II to learn about running a tour stop.

Be All You Can Be: Take Your Teaching and Your ALPs Course to the Next Level! (ALPs University Instructors only)

Presenters: Erin Garriott and Elesia Yoon (Butler University)

Instructors in Special Olympics Indiana's Athlete Leadership Program are invited to bring their ALPs University course materials and join this interactive discussion exploring techniques to improve the classroom experience for attendees.

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Spirit of Special Olympics Luncheon

Speakers: Michael Furnish and Carl Erksine

Take a break from the classroom and help us celebrate the winners of the 2017 Spirit of Special Olympics Indiana Awards and the Dennis Schmidt Impact Award! Following lunch and the presentation of awards, SOIN President & CEO Michael Furnish will discuss the state of Special Olympics in Indiana, and former MLB great Carl Erskine will share from his experiences as a Special Olympics parent and even provide some entertainment as he plays his harmonica.

1:35 pm - 2:15 pm

YMCA, Bridging the Gap of Service

Presenter: Amanda Moore (YMCA of Greater Indianapolis)

The YMCA of Greater Indianapolis is committed to partnering with Special Olympics Indiana by providing services that help support our athletes in the communities where they live. Join us to learn about how the YMCA is working to fill the gaps of service for people with intellectual disabilities and to discuss opportunities for your County Program to develop a partnership with your local YMCA.

Transitioning School-Aged Youth to County Programs

Presenter: Lee Lonzo and Jeff Mohler

Special Olympics Indiana's *Champions Together* partnership with the IHSAA has grown exponentially over the past four years, and more and more high school students are looking for ways to get involved in their local Special Olympics program outside of school. Young athletes are knocking... will you open the door?

Going for the Grant

Presenter: Julie Burkholder

Panel: Becky Walls (Kosciusko Co.) and Vicky Lutgring (Perry Co.)

Learn from your peers in this interactive panel discussion on securing grant funding for your local Special Olympics program. This session will include a look at identifying organizations in your area that may be issuing grants, navigating the grant application process, and lessons learned in successfully securing funds.



Benefits of Health and Wellness for Our Athletes and You

Presenter: Megan Schmidt (Butler University)

As Special Olympics Indiana continues its efforts to reduce health disparities and improve outcomes among the people it serves, it has become increasingly important that everyone in the organization understands the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. Using tools like the Fit 5 Guidebook and drawing from course content covered in ALPs University's Introduction to Health and Fitness, this session will feature a wide-ranging discussion on nutrition and hydration, the benefits of exercise, identifying new ways to get physically active in every day life, and setting personal goals.

Your Dependent with Special Needs . . . Making their Future More Secure

Presenter: Gordon Homes (Mass Mutual)

With changes to Home and Community-Based Medicaid Waivers and the direction of government benefits unclear, it has become critically important for families to plan for the future of their dependent with special needs. This workshop covers: wills; special needs trusts and guardianship; and financial issues, such as special needs trust funding, ABLE accounts, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, and letters of intent.

Unified Golf Tour, Part II

Presenters: Patrick Kozlowski and Donna Hazelett (Allen Co.)

Picking up where Part I left off, the second session on the Unified Golf Tour will focus on learning to run a tour stop at a golf course in your area. Join us to learn about how you can take the next step in your Unified Golf experience.

Planned Giving: The Carl & Betty Erskine Society

Presenters: Michael Furnish and Carl Erskine

A select group of County Coordinators will be invited to participate in a discussion of revenue sharing in relation to planned gifts. We will discuss the potential for inviting key volunteers and family members to make a legacy gift to Special Olympics that could fund your County Program far into the future. Please check with Mike Furnish if you're interested.

2:25 pm - 3:10 pm

Making a Commitment to Health: Next Steps to be Healthier

Presenter: Mary Ciccarelli, MD (Indiana University School of Medicine)

What are the next steps Special Olympics athletes, coaches, and families can take to be healthier? Participants will define a healthy athlete as someone who takes good care of his or her body, along with developing skills as activated patients who get the right services at the right time from their healthcare providers.

3:20 pm - 4:25 pm

Regional Round Tables

Presenters: Buzz Lail (Northwest), Julie Burkholder (Northeast), Beth Schweigel (Central), Francie Smith (South)

Don't miss this opportunity to sit down with leaders from your part of the state to exchange ideas and discuss practical ways to improve the athlete experience for the people you serve.

4:30 pm - 5:15 pm

Mike's Farewell Q & A

Presenter: Michael Furnish

Outgoing President & CEO Mike Furnish will deliver his final address, touching on the history of Special Olympics in Indiana, highlighting successes from 2017, and sharing how Indiana will build a better future for our athletes, families, and volunteers. Questions will be invited and encouraged. The session and conference will conclude with a special recognition of Mike for his many years of dedicated service.