

# Hundreds Expected to Take Part in Annual ‘Plane Pull Challenge’ to Benefit Special Olympics Indiana

*The organization’s largest single-day fundraiser pits teams of up to 20 against an 80-ton FedEx 757 jetliner in an unforgettable game of tug-of-war at the Indianapolis International Airport.*



**INDIANAPOLIS**—More than 60 teams and 1,500 individuals will converge on the Indianapolis International Airport Saturday, Aug. 26, for the annual [Plane Pull Challenge](#) to benefit Special Olympics Indiana.

Sponsored by FedEx and hosted at the airport’s Postal Hub (2475 S. Hoffman Rd.), the fundraiser calls upon participants to work together to raise a minimum of \$1,200 per team in the months leading up to the event before competing against one another to pull an 80-ton Boeing 757 jetliner in the fastest time.

Competition begins at 9 a.m., with additional activities and entertainment scheduled throughout the day.

“The Plane Pull is one of our favorite events of the year—it’s always exciting to see people from a lot of different backgrounds working together toward a common goal,” said Scott Furnish, senior director of development for Special Olympics Indiana. “As we continue to grow as an organization, fundraisers like this one mean more and more to our ability to provide year-round opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities to get involved in Special Olympics throughout the state.”

Additional sponsors of the Plane Pull Challenge include the Indiana Law Enforcement Torch Run, CBS4/Fox59, and Indiana and Pacers Sports & Entertainment, among others. Mascots and other representatives of the Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever will participate in the event and provide entertainment.

This year’s field of competitors includes teams representing small businesses and major corporations, local high schools, law enforcement agencies, and others. Members of [Team Indiana](#)—the select group of athletes, coaches, and volunteers who will represent Indiana at the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle—will meet for the first time and take part in the competition, raising money to help cover the cost of travel, room and board, and uniforms.

Other activities include a car show, a “bubble soccer” tournament, and a family fun festival with food vendors and live music. Admission is free and spectators are welcome. Visit [www.planepullin.org](http://www.planepullin.org) to learn more or register a new team.

# # #

## ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA

Special Olympics Indiana is a not-for-profit organization that provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in more than 20 Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, reaching more than 13,000 athletes across Indiana. The organization receives no federal or state appropriated funds, is not a United Way agency, and relies entirely on corporate, civic and individual donations. For more information about Special Olympics Indiana, call (317) 328-2000 or visit [www.soindiana.org](http://www.soindiana.org).

CONTACT: Nathan Barnes, Manager of Marketing & Public Relations (Special Olympics Indiana)  
[nbarnes@soindiana.org](mailto:nbarnes@soindiana.org) | Office: (317) 328-2008 | Mobile: (219) 742-3755