

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, offering 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

> "Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

> > - Special Olympics Athlete Oath

DIRECTORY

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Cover Photo:

Andrew Peterson and Master Trooper Tommy Walker for the Indiana State Police, had the privilege of lighting the torch at the 2015 Special Olympics Indiana Summer Games in Terre Haute, Indiana.



From the CEO

IT'S ALL ABOUT DOING YOUR BEST

Once every four years, just like the Olympics, Special Olympics athletes, families, and volunteers from around the world gather for the World Summer Games. In 2015, we all met in Los Angeles for one week of amazement.

There are a number of elements that make "our Olympics" special, but for me, the best thing about us is that there is no difference between Special Olympics at the world level and Special Olympics at the local level. This year's living example of this is Benton County – Indiana's own Amanda Cayton.

Amanda is like thousands of athletes in Indiana. She had some interest in Track and Field, but really didn't enjoy running all that much. And then, something magical took place – she found the right sport and the right coach. Former Benton Central football coach Dave Black recognized her interest and agreed to become her coach. He knew the sport of Powerlifting, and dedicated his time to Amanda on the condition that she matched his level of commitment.

Spoiler alert... Two years later Amanda is a 4-time gold medal winner in Powerlifting at the 2015 Los Angeles Special Olympics World Games.



Just like almost every Special Olympics athlete I know, when a well-qualified coach makes a commitment and expects the best from his or her athletes, amazing things happen. Since July, many people have seen Amanda's four gold medals and appreciated that she is the best in world. But if that's all they think, they are missing the point. **Special Olympics is not about being the best – it's about doing your best.**

It's the same for Amanda as it is for each of the 11,000+ Special Olympics athletes in Indiana. Whether you volunteer, donate, coach, or cheer – you can be the person who helps a hidden champion realize their personal best.

- Michael Furnish



12,022 athlete participation rate 28 sports 74 county programs

Aquatics Distance Run & Walk
Basketball Equestrian
Bocce Flag Football
Bowling Golf
Corn Toss Horseshoes
Cycling Powerlifting

Softball
Track & Field
Triathlon
Volleyball
Alpine Skiing
Snow Boarding

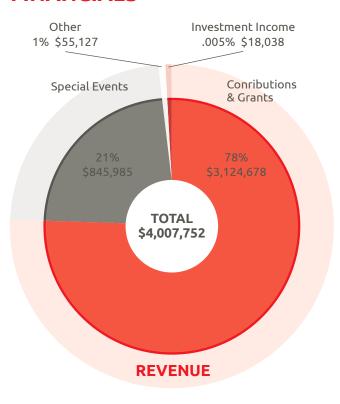
Figure Skating Floor Hockey Soccer Speed Skating Tennis

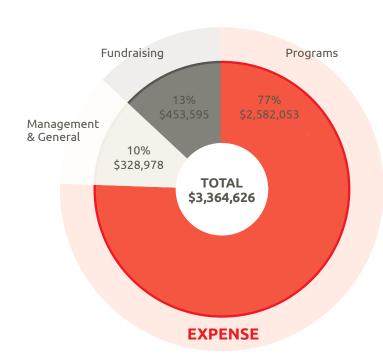
Health Screening Completed

Unified Sports Partners

Trained Athlete Leaders

FINANCIALS





Snow Shoeing

Unified Track

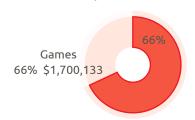
Young Athletes

Ballroom Dance

Motor Activities

Training Program

PROGRAMS further detailed







NET INCREASE \$643,126 **FUNDS FOR FUTURE USE** \$571,920

OPERATING SURPLUS \$71,206

WORLD-CLASS PROGRAMS

UNIFIED SPORTS®

Where individuals with and without disabilities train and compete on the same team against other Unified Sports® teams. Indiana has 3,273 partners.

CHAMPIONS TOGETHER

The establishment of the "Champions Together," partnership between the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) and Special Olympics Indiana begun when IHSAA Commissioner, Bobby Cox, challenged the IHSAA Student Advisory Committee (SAC) to engage in "servant leadership" and discover ways to give back to their schools and communities. The IHSAA SAC researched options, and unanimously requested that an official partnership be formed with Special Olympics as the most appropriate fit for education-based athlete servant leadership. Champions Together helps Special Olympics Indiana athletes to participate alongside their classmates in sports at their local high schools. The Champions Together program has grown from just 13 high schools since its inception, to more than 60 high schools today.

The partnership will provide a banner to all schools that meet minimum requirements in the areas of 1) student led servant leadership, 2) awareness and inclusion as it relates to all individuals with intellectual disabilities, 3) volunteerism through service to the schools and community and 4) fundraising to promote the vision and programs of Special Olympics Indiana.

ATHLETE LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS

Training is provided to athletes in a university setting so they can become public speakers, committee members, coaches, officials, and volunteers. In 2015, Indiana had 364 athletes enrolled in ALPs University, and 61 athletes have graduated.

YOUNG ATHLETES

Children ages 2-7 are introduced to Special Olympics through activities designed to foster physical, cognitive and social development. Indiana has 833 kids involved in Young Athletes since 2015.

HEALTHY ATHLETES

Five types of health screenings (sight, hearing, dental, padietry and fitness) are provided in order to improve athletes' abilities to train and compete. Omit a total of 2,617 screenings were completed in 2015.





YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY

Lawrenceburg, Indiana hosted the Winter Games once again, as over 100 athletes took to the slopes to compete in skiing, snowshoeing and snowboarding.

MARCH

More than 2,400 athletes compete in the State Men's, Women's, and Youth Basketball tournaments including 5-on-5 full court, Unified Sports, 3-on-3, and more.

MAY

Each of Indiana's 10 Areas hosts Spring Games. These Games are among the most important of the over 2,800 competitions held in Indiana each year.

JULY

The Charity Golf Classic was held at Prairie View Golf Course, and raised over \$65,000. The event was made possible through our strategic partnerships with American Family Insurance, the Indianapolis Colts, and Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

SEPTEMBER

Eunice Kennedy Shriver (EKS) Games took place for three weekends at a variety of different venues in Indianapolis and surrounding areas. The EKS Games drew about 2,000 athletes competing in nine different sports.

NOVEMBER

The Indiana LETR program hosted the second annual Strikes for Special Olympics Indiana event where over 30 teams raised funds for Special Olympics Indiana and enjoyed some friendly competition.

FEBRUARY

Across the state of Indiana, more than 2,600 plungers were 'Freezin' for a Reason' at the 14 different plunge venues. The Polar Plunge generated more than \$600,000 to benefit Special Olympics Indiana.

The Athlete Leadership Program (ALPs) trains athletes to serve in meaningful leadership roles in addition to that of competitor, by providing Special Olympics athletes a variety of choices in how they participate in the program.

JUNE

The first two weekends in June were busy for Special Olympics Indiana. During the weekend in June, the IHSAA hosted their annual Unified Track® and Field state competition that took place at Indiana University. The high school team that took home the State trophy was Lafayette Jefferson High School. Additionally, Special Olympics Indiana's State Summer Games took place on the campuses of Indiana State University and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. More than 2,6000 athletes competed in eight Olympic-type sports.

AUGUST

The 14th annual Plane Pull Challenge at the Indianapolis International Airport was a huge success with lots of participation from the community – with more than 2,000 people in attendance. Our friends and partners, from the Indiana Pacers showed up in a major way with presence from their High Octane Drumline, the Indiana Pacemates, Boomer, Freddy Fever, TV Host/Sideline Reporter Jeremiah Johnson and Pacers player Glenn Robinson III.

OCTOBER

The Colts Pavilion was the host site for the annual Breakfast with Champions Fundraising Breakfast. The event featured Special Olympics Indiana athletes, parents, board members and high school coaches. Each expressed their personal experiences and how Special Olympics has touched their spirits and transformed their lives. The event raised more than \$130,000.

DECEMBER

Athletes from all across Indiana participated in our State Bowling Tournament, our largest sport for Special Olympics Indiana. The first weekend in December athletes competed for medals at Western and Woodland Bowl in Indianapolis.

CHAMPION SPONSORS





"High fives. Energy. Hugs. Friendships. Smiles, Motivated. Words that so simply and completely define what our valued partnership with Special Olympics means to Team Finish Line."

"We had a splendid 2015

"We continue to demonstrate our LETR! In 2016, we plan excitement of our to focus on recruiting using the motto "Just partnership with Special Olympics Indiana. One More!" Just one Each year we work more athlete, just one on strengthening our more officer, just one service to others –all for more agency, just one the greater good of our more event to grow the Indiana LETR! I look planet." forward to spreading the awareness of Special



Olympics athletes and

LETR partnership in

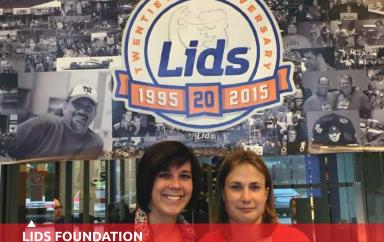
2016!"

"Indiana Knights of Columbus supports Special Olympics Indiana throughout the state...because every life matters. We look forward to continuing to grow our partnership through our Ambassador Program, Polar Plunge, Summer Games participation, Plane Pull, Winter Games, and more, throughout 2016!"



"LIDS Foundation is a proud supporter and friend to Special Olympics Indiana. This organization improves lives of ALL youth, and that is embodied through sport and activity. We are truly inspired by each Special Olympics Indiana athlete."





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



FINISH LINE ecial Olympics Indiana Annual

COMMITTED TO THE COMMUNITY —

It takes a special person to decide to dedicate their life to helping others. Director of Special Education for the Mount Vernon and North Posey School Districts and 2015 Coach of the Year, Jacquelyn Maier, is a wonderful example of those rare few volunteers that believe impact is by doing.

Maier has served as a Special Education teacher for 22-years. For 20 of those years, she has coached both varsity cross country and track and field. For much of her career, Maier searched for a way to combine those two passions of Special Education and athletics. "I love athletics, and I truly believe in the value of the lessons learned from athletics," Maier said. "The opportunity for our special education students in the district to be exposed to this level of sports competition, would be a beautiful experience for them."

Jacquelyn made that dream a reality in 2013, when she began hosting Special Olympics Indiana competitions for her students and other athletes across Posey County –coaching track and field, basketball, and bowling. Immediately, she found a special bond coaching Special Olympics Indiana athletes. She felt the sports provided an opportunity to teach lessons that might be difficult to get across in a classroom setting.

"We are able to teach athletes about work ethic, responsibility and cooperation," said Maier. "We teach them to set goals, so that they can see the value of perseverance and mental toughness as they work toward reaching those goals. In life, there are no short cuts, so when I am able to help athletes reflect on their experiences, we are helping them develop their confidence to break through boundaries, instead of setting limitations." And while Maier takes on an exceptional amount of responsibility when putting on these athletic competitions, she is very adamant that she does not want all the credit and does not do this alone.

"I have an incredible support system from the community and the Posey County management team, and have been blessed, through in and throughout," explained Maier. "I expected more resistance initially, because this is a big commitment, but quickly found that our attitude and passion for the athletes rubbed off on many people. It's become a big deal in the community. We have a huge amount of amazing volunteers who have been there from day one. The athletes put their hearts and souls into Special Olympics Indiana, and so do we!"





The impact of volunteerism in Special Olympics for Jacquelyn has been life changing. Her children and husband have even experienced a transformation. "My whole family has been involved in this movement. It brings tears to my eyes when I think of how much my children have taken on this huge role and interacted with these athletes in a way I could not have even imagined. It's honestly rewarding." Jacquelyn has received a great deal of internal joy and excitement throughout these last few years. Every day I have participated in this movement, I am constantly reminded of the power the Special Olympics movement has in my life.

A FULL CIRCLE GIVE BACK

John Vanderbilt was a Special Olympics Indiana athlete for more than 30 years, training for and competing in many local and state events. To say Special Olympics changed his life is an understatement.

Not only did John feel this, but so did his sister Ruth – who made it her mission to sustain her brother's memory and thank Special Olympics Indiana for helping to create positive and life-changing spaces for her brother and thousands of individuals with intellectual disabilities like him

Ruth and her brother John were born and raised in a modest household in Terre Haute. Ruth was never able to afford a difference-making donation during her life; however, she did include Special Olympics Indiana in her will. Through a planned gift she memorialized her brother, and provided the resources needed to launch Indiana's new Athlete Health and Fitness initiative.

Ruth reflected on life in her later years, and the many memories that included her brother's love and passion for Special Olympics. According to her son David she said, "I loved John dearly. He often would share how much he enjoyed his fellow Special Olympics athletes, who became like a second family. If those athletes were his family, then it is my responsibility to take care of my family – and give a gift that will make an imprint on the hearts, minds and spirits of other athletes and their families."



Ruth's 2015 gift made her and her brother part of Special Olympics Indiana's **Carl and Betty Erskine Society**. Their willingness to be listed as a member of the

Society not only encourages others to follow their example, but inspires the family members, athletes and community at large that Special Olympics' life-improving mission will continue for generations to come.

You don't have to be wealthy to make a significant gift to Special Olympics. Whether you want to make a gift that costs you nothing during your lifetime, or a gift that gives you guaranteed income for life, Special Olympics Indiana will work with you if you are ready to start a thoughtful process of integrating a charitable gift into your overall financial and estate plans.

CARL AND BETTY ERSKINE SOCIETY MEMBERS —————

The Carl and Betty Erskine Society was established in 2012, as a way for those who have been touched by Special Olympics, to make a lifetime gift that perpetuates the organization. Carl and Betty Erskine serve as champions in the effort to make those with intellectual disabilities accepted and equal on all fronts.

Sherry and Bill Benner
Judi and Phil Bounsall
Danny and Deborah Dean
Cathy and John Elzinga
Rebecca and Michael Furnish

Ruth Judge (in memory of John Vanderbilt)
Larkin "Buzz" Lail
Bob and Susan Pensec
Paul G. Reis and Mo Merhoff
Mark C. Sherman

Ron and Catherine Stiver Stanford Goldberg Genevieve Kubelius

2015 SPIRIT OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS AWARD WINNERS

ATHLETE

Alise Hazelett, Area 3

FAMILY

The Knipe Family, Area 8

COACH

Jacquelyn Maier, Area 10

VOLUNTEER

Rita Abell, Area 8

LETR OFFICER

Jacquelyn Smith, Indiana State University Police Department







PLANE PULL PARTICIPANTS

2015 PLANE PULL TEAMS

CHAMPION \$5,000+

Lowes-Just Plane Around

Big E's Buddies

PULL Unified

New Castle Correctional Facility Sallie Mae CHA

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$1,968 - \$4,999

IMPD Blue Bombers CSI - Just Plane Crazy AAR Aircraft Services - Wing Nuts Team SADDLE UP WITH SHREWSBERRY Team TogetHR Knights of Columbus District 24 Delta Fire Brigade **BF&S ROCK STARS** Madison Dream Team CVR NATCA Indy Center Anthem Team Medicaid-Wildey Plainfield Pirates (ERO) Tuggernauts Rolls-Royce AE 2100 Team Just Plane Strong

CIRCLE OF HONOR \$1,000 - \$1,967

Tugga Tugga NextGear Capital Self-Propelled 1 Team WVCF Plane and Simple IDOC Central Office IFAST Flvers **SMITHereens** Allegion Team Ermel Rock N Roll w/Ryan Special Olympics Johnson County Polaris Plane Pullers IndyMaxImpact Jaclyn's Cousins

Rockville Correctional Facility

Plane Yankers

Carmel High School Champions Together

Southern Wine & Spirits of Indiana

Johnson Controls, Inc Decatur Tuggers D & D Motorcycle Club

Correctional Industrial Facility

Dakota's FEW Crew

Baldwin & Lyons

Edinburgh Correctional Facility FedEx Trade Network Thunder IDOC State and Westville Combo

Indiana Womens Prison

Niagara's Heavy Hitters Pendleton Correctional Facility

Team DOZ

Miami Correctional Facility Barn Stormers

ResCare Marion

TEAM CAPTAINS

Kevin M. Jackson Liz O'Brien Meredith C. Wade

Stacy Miller Kristi Strahl Darla Anderson Susan Herczea Heather Van Gorp Beth Corbett Chandra Coffee Scott Schutte Robert Warde Craig Swearingen Hope Greathouse Karen A. Belmont Jim Larson Amee Wildey Antoine Stewart Nicholas Hahn Angela Paglia Matt Blair Nicholas Schweigel

Sarah L. Shimizu Lucas Collis Phil Majer Dusty Russell Lisa A. Dampier Ike Randolph Kirsten Shaw Joshua O'Neal Mary Rowinski Robin L. Ermel Rita M. Abell Elaine Davila Waychaun Williams Jaclyn Knipe Debra Ford Debra Ford Grace A. Marchese Lisa Blankenship Mark Gough Megan Cruser Elizabeth A. Goldman Peter Kapsalis Megan McClain Tonya Moody Stephen Jeter William D. Johnston Derek Boyan Dennis Evans William Phipps Karen Chase Kylie Mabe Ashley Elfers Craig Stoll Ramona Adams Jessica Russell









THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

INDIVIDUALS

CHAMPION \$5,000+

R. Bruce Dve David Judge William T. McClair Michael A McNary Mark C. Sherman Bruce and Tracie Upchurch M. Weissbuch and R. Mill

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE \$500.00 + \$1,968.00 +

Jerry W. Andrews Andrew Cohoat John R. Custer Elizabeth Harmor Larkin (Buzz) Lail Linda D. Miller Paul G. Reis and Mo Merhoff **Emily Ridgley** Richard and Pat Schreiner

Ron and Catherine Stiver **CIRCLE OF HONOR** \$1,000.00 + Jo Ann M. Allen Ronald Ayers Linda D. Bedwell Karen A. Belmont Lisa Blankenship Elmer Blevins Vivian A. Block Judi and Phil Bounsall Jay and Kathryn Brehm Lynne E. Buckley-Noble Dex Callaghan James Callaghar Robert Chinsky Jay S. Crannell Michael J. Donovan Tom and Deb Easterday Vincent Edwards Brad Ehrlich Scott Ernstberge Ben Evans Stacey L. Evans Debra Ford Rebecca and Michael Furnish Keith Gambrel Audrey Gerson Matt L. Godbout Susan Hanna Tom Heldt Robert Hillman Dennis J. Hohlbein Terry L. Howie H. Peter Hudson Richard M. Huff Ray Kennedy Linda Knoll Randall Knox David J. Lee Kav Lipps W. Tobin McClamroch Michael K. McCrory Edward P. McDonald Mr. Joseph and Dr. Angela Mever Jeffrey Mohler Judith M. Mohler Charlie Morrison Rona Ortega Ersal Ozdemii Nathan Pixlev Bob and Jeanie Plante Thomas Ridge Trent J. Sandifur Edward C. Schmit Phillip L. Shivley

April Simpson

Alvssa Smith

Eric Spohn

Deborah Smith

Janice L. Stamper

Theresa S. Stoddard

Timothy F. Sullivan Imogene Taylor Brian Thompson David Turner James Turner Al Webber William Whitehead Daniel Williams Steve Znachko

GOLD

Amanda Adkins Barbara S. Amy Brian P Baird Scott D. Barker Douglas K. Barnev Linda Barrabee Michelle Bell Pamela J. Bennett Jane Berkey Rita Bianchi Robert Black Betty J. Bledsoe Alex Bontrager Linda S. Boothe John Boss Torrin Bottrell Cindy Bowtrage Robert Brody Joyce E. Brodzinski Regina Brooks Barbara Brookshire Enid M. Callaghan Ben Carlisle Dianne F. Carlisle Patrick J. Carney Sandy and David Carr Kevin Chance Theresea M. Chapman Teresa G. Chestnut Joseph R. Clark Irene Clevenaer Andrew Clouse Jan and Matt Cohoat Leatrice F. Coker Michael Collins Rvan Cooper Jeff Cornett Clarinda Crawford William Crimmins Ashlev Cullison Katherine B. Custer Larry G. Dahl Robert Dallas John Deal Deborah Degnar Michael Dell Stephanie Delong Timothy J. Dickson Caryl F. Dill Timothy P. Ferree Phil French William J. Gaither Joyce George Melody A. Grapperhaus Jeffery C. Hadden Mandi Hanson Linda Hardestv Marietta Harrison Mike K. Heldman John D. Hiatt Terry Hines Timothy and Vicki Hobbs J.C. Hoover Angela Host Andrew F. Hunnicutt

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Stephen leter

Curtis Johnson

Susan Jones

Flla M Karris

Jeremy Kina

Sandra Koette

Karen A Kennelly

Carol Ward Knox

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David Herbon

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Joann Havs

Debra Grisham Madeleine M. Grove James N. Gunn Charles Gunyon Brad Gutwein Amelia A. Hagedorr

C. Joseph Yast Kathy Yeary Tom Zupancic

SILVER \$250.00 +

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Chris Morrison

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Margaret Wiley

Jacob Williams

John Willis

Mark Wilson

Natalie Wilsor

Shana Wilson

Madonna Wol

Racheal Williams

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CHA Consulting, Inc.

CSX Transportation

Dilling Group, Inc.

Foundation, Inc.

Organization

Fit Livin LLC

GF Aviation

Marion County

Service Corp.

HSNillC

Facility

Horizon League

Bank

Fifth Third Bank

First Bank Richmond

Golden Post Kennel

Hobart Animal Clinic

I.U.O.E. Local # 841

Indiana Sports Corporation

Indiana Women's Prisor

J & K Communications

Indiana State University Foundation

Indianapolis Reentry Educational

Sertoma Club of East Indianapolis,

Fagle Riders Group

Dennis & Associates, Inc.

DOZ Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility

Enterprise Leasing Company

Eugene C. Kieffer Charitable

Finish Line Youth Foundation

Fleschner, Stark, Tanoos & Newlin

FOE Covered Bridge Aerie #4388

The Freedom Riders Chapter 5

Health & Hospital Corporation of

Henry County REMC Community

Dubois County Community

DEEM, LLC

Dot Foods

CHAMPION \$50,000+

The Finish Line, Inc. The Genevieve Kubelius Trust Knights of Columbus Lids Foundation, Inc. Lilly Endowment, Inc. Ohio Mills, Inc. Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

GOLD \$20,000+

Duke Energy The Duke Energy Foundation Orchard Software

SILVER \$10,000+

Ackerman Foundation All State Insurance Company American Family Mutual Insurance Company Boren Foundation CWC Commercial Warehouse & Cartage, Inc. FedEx Indiana AMVETS Dept. Service Foundation Inc. Indiana Chemical Trust Indiana University Indianapolis Power & Light Company Mobi Wireless Management, LLC Nicholas H. Noyes Jr. Memorial Foundation NIPSCO Pacers Sports & Entertainment SIA Foundation Inc. Vectren Corporation

BRONZE \$5,000+

AMVETS Post 99 Ayres Foundation, Inc. Center Township Trustee Howard County Coca-Cola Controls and Data Services Enterprise Holdings Foundation Geo Group Inc The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis Inc. Indiana Section PGA of America Indianapolis Colts John W. Anderson Foundation Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi-Xi Zeta Morgan Stanley Northern Indiana Aviation SJC Beat The Heat Smith Fuqua Foundation Valero Renewables Wabash Elks Lodge No. 471 Walmart Corporation Washington County Community Foundation Inc. Wayne County Foundation

BLUE RIBBON \$2,500+

Allegion American Legion Victory Post No. 70 ARC of Indiana Butler University Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Inc. Canterbury High School Castle High School

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CHAMPIONS TOGETHER HIGH SCHOOLS \$5.000+

Angola High School Bloomington North High School Boonville High School Borden High School Brebeuf Jesuit High School Bremen High School Carmel High School Castle High School Columbus East High School Crown Point High School Danville Community High School Decatur Central High School Fishers High School Floyd Central High School Fort Wayne Canterbury High School Fort Wayne North Side High School Guerin Catholic High School Harrison (West Lafayette) High School Jeffersonville High School Kankakee Valley High School LaPorte High School Lowell High School McCutcheon High School Merriville High School Michigan City High School Mooresville High School Mount Vernon High School Muncie Central High School Munster High School New Palestine High School Northwestern High School Plainfield High School Rennselaer Central High School Seton Catholic High School Seymour Community Schools South Ripley Jr.-Sr. High School Terre Haute North High School Tri West Hendricks High School Twin Lakes High School West Lafayette Community Schools Whiteland Community High School

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