The Law Enforcement Torch Run® (LETR) started in Kansas in 1981 and is the largest public awareness grass-roots fundraiser for Special Olympics. Known honorably as Guardians of the Flame, law enforcement members and Special Olympics athletes carry the “Flame of Hope” into the Opening Ceremony of local competitions, State, Provincial, National, Regional and World Games. Annually, more than 97,000 dedicated and compassionate law enforcement members carry the “Flame of Hope,” symbolizing courage and celebration of diversity uniting communities around the globe.

The LETR for Special Olympics engages law enforcement worldwide championing acceptance and inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities, starting first with their own communities. Over the years the Torch Run has evolved and now encompasses a variety of innovative fundraising platforms to include Car Shows, Polar Plunges, Tip-A-Cops, and more. Since inception, LETR has raised more than half a billion dollars and changed millions of attitudes.

As LETR Founder and retired Wichita Police Chief Richard LaMunyon once said, “What started in 1981…as a flicker of hope for Special Olympics has now become a roaring flame of stability for Special Olympics athletes worldwide.” Through the partnership of LETR and Special Olympics, we are changing the future for people with intellectual disabilities and lighting the way for acceptance and inclusion.

“Being autistic makes it awkward in social, crowded settings. By participating in Special Olympics I have learned to adapt to overwhelming feelings and find the ‘fun’ in the noise.”

- Michael Will-Gallegos, Special Olympics Kansas Athlete

Special Olympics Kansas is dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society through sports competitions, health and nutrition programs and leadership development. Offering year-round initiatives to children and adults with intellectual disabilities, Special Olympics Kansas is a platform for acceptance and inclusion as well as one of the largest advocates for healthy lifestyles in the state regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or cultural differences.

Since 1968, Special Olympics Kansas has grown, providing a quality, year-round program of athletic training, health education and competition opportunities to more than 4,300 athletes with intellectual disabilities throughout the state of Kansas. Participants train daily in one or more of 20 sport offerings, and competitions are held at multiple locations throughout the state.

In addition, Special Olympics Kansas continues to implement innovative programs to assist in those areas of service which are lacking to participants. Through Unified Sports®, Healthy Athletes® Programs, Athlete Leadership Programs, and Young Athletes®, Special Olympics Kansas continues to develop and promote programs that help our athletes improve their health and fitness, acquire new skills, develop lifelong friendships, and encourage widespread community understanding and acceptance. Every day, athletes gain more than just a chance to play a game or run a race; they gain the opportunity to become a role model, a teacher, a friend and an inspiration. For the athletes of Special Olympics Kansas, the training never stops and the benefits last a lifetime.

Let me win.
But if I cannot win,
Let me be BRAVE in the attempt.

- Special Olympics Athlete Oath
Support Special Olympics Kansas Athletes in your community!

- Platinum Partner $2,500
- Gold Partner $1,875
- Silver Partner $1,000
- Bronze Partner $500
- Ribbon Partner $250
- Spirit Partner $150

Make checks payable to Special Olympics Kansas or pay by credit card.
Donation is 100% tax deductible.

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We would like to provide volunteers at events.

Event Locations:
- North Central
- Metro
- Southeast
- South Central
- West

VOLUNTEER CONTACT NAME IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE:

PHONE & EMAIL:

Please return with payment to:
Special Olympics Kansas
5280 Foxridge Drive • Mission, KS 66202
schultel@ksso.org • fax: 913-236-9771

Created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation for the benefit of persons with intellectual disabilities.