

# 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

## IMPACT REPORT

*Special  
Olympics*  
Washington



[SpecialOlympicsWashington.org](https://SpecialOlympicsWashington.org)









# A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends of **Special Olympics Washington**,

**2022 -- what a year!**

On behalf of the staff and board of Special Olympics Washington thank you for your ongoing support.

After two years of virtual programming, in 2022, we were beyond excited to continue our return to in-person training, competitions, health screenings and events. What a thrill it was to see athletes, Unified partners, coaches and volunteers take to fields and courts across the state and to witness the spectacle of our first Opening Ceremony since the start of the pandemic – and my first since joining Special Olympics Washington in 2020! – at our State Spring Games in Tacoma.

In 2022, we were also excited to kick off **Beyond Gold**, our multi-year strategy to reimagine and expand Special Olympics Washington's impact on the lives of people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities. As we work to build a more inclusive future for Washington State, we hope you'll join the team. You can learn more about the Beyond Gold campaign at **[BeyondGoldWA.com](https://BeyondGoldWA.com)**

All that we accomplished in 2022 is possible thanks to generous supporters like you! We are deeply grateful for your support and humbled by your generosity. Because of you, we can continue to provide opportunities for our athletes and further our mission to build inclusive communities with and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

With Endless Gratitude And Warmest Regards,

**DAVID WU**

*President & CEO  
Special Olympics Washington*





## SPORTS & COMPETITION

2022 was surrounded by excitement about ramping back up and returning to in-person training and competition. In 2022, we sent athletes to the **Special Olympics USA Games** in Orlando and held our first in-person **State Games** since the start of the pandemic. We look forward to diving into a full sports and competition year in 2023!

# 11,954

Athletes and  
Unified Partners

# 3,907

Volunteers  
helped bring our  
mission to life



# 16

sports



# 02

State  
Games



# 56

Regional  
Tournaments



# 13

Programming  
Regions



# UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS

The Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools program promotes social inclusion through intentionally planned and implemented activities affecting systems-wide change. With sports as the foundation, the three-component model offers a unique combination of effective activities that equip young people with tools and training to create sports, classroom and school climates of acceptance.



## 3 Components:



Whole School Awareness and Involvement  
Inclusive Youth Leadership  
Inclusive Sports

Number of Unified  
Champion Schools:

110

Total Student Experiences  
in the 3 Unified Champion  
Schools Components:

34,433

Total Special Olympics  
Washington Organized Unified  
Champion Schools Competitions:

21

Unified Coaches Trained and  
Certified in Unified Sports

140

Teachers Trained or Educated  
in Special Olympics Unified  
Champion School Activities

367

*\*Please note that all numbers reflect the 2021-2022 school year, Unified Champion Schools does not operate on the calendar year.*

## Programs Offered:

### *Unified Sports/Fitness:*

- Unified Basketball
- Unified Soccer
- Unified Track
- Unified Fitness Clubs
- Unified Physical Education
- Young Athletes
- Local League Games
- State Competition
- WIBA All State Competition

### *Inclusive Youth Leadership:*

- Leadership Summits
- Webinars
- Unified Clubs
- US Youth Ambassador Program
- Youth Leaders at USA Games Youth Leadership Experience



### *Whole School Engagement*

- Spread the Word Inclusion
- Unified Spirit Week
- Fans in the Stands
- Young Readers Club
- Unified Classroom

### *Unified Robotics*



### *Camp Unity*



# INCLUSIVE HEALTH & FITNESS

To ensure that athletes are performing at their best on and off the playing field, Special Olympics Washington offers health examinations to all athletes through its Healthy Athletes program. From dental examinations to podiatric screenings, Healthy Athletes screenings are free to athletes and are delivered in a fun, welcoming environment that removes the anxiety and trepidation people with intellectual and developmental disabilities often experience when visiting a medical professional.



6

State and Regional  
Screening events

232

Total  
Screenings

680

Health Professionals, Students and Providers  
Trained in Inclusive Health and Fitness

## 4 Health Disciplines Offered in 2022

- Health Promotion
- MedFest
- Special Smiles
- Fit Feet

"In my experience volunteering with Special Smiles I was able to see the immense need for accessible and affordable dental care. It was eye opening. I was able to spend time with athletes one on one, hear their stories, see the condition of their dental health and most importantly be a small part of a resource for them. As a new staff member, volunteering at a Healthy Athletes screening had a huge impact on me and I am looking forward to doing it again in the future!"

— Cheyenne Baird



544

Youth and Adults With  
and Without Intellectual  
and Developmental  
Disabilities Participating  
in Ongoing Fitness  
Programs

Athlete and Health Messenger, Tyler Fryberg shared the importance of Special Olympics Washington's health equity programs at our annual Tasting Room Auction.

*"All of the fitness programs and challenges hosted by Special Olympics have kept me in top shape, taught me healthy habits, and helped me complete my first marathon!"*









# THANK YOU

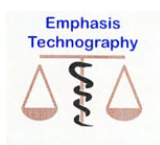
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