



## Support Special Olympics Kentucky

### *State funding needed to meet the needs of our growing population*

- Overview:** Special Olympics Kentucky provides unique and vital services to **more than 10,200 Kentuckians** with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics Kentucky currently receives no state funding and is dependent on individual and corporate donations to fund the much-needed programs and services to athletes across Kentucky. Recognizing the impact Special Olympics Kentucky makes on an individual and his/her family, Special Olympics Kentucky is seeking state funding to meet the growing needs of this population.
- Request:** \$50,000 in each fiscal year of the 2020-2022 executive branch budget
- Impact:** 400 additional athletes statewide
- Programs:** Funding would be utilized to support growth in three programs:
- **Year-Round Sports Program:** *15 year-round sports programs teaching athletes valuable skills that translate into school and work settings. Studies show that our athletes are 52% more likely to be employed than their peers who do not participate.*
  - **Healthy Athletes Initiative:** *Over 1,300 free health screenings to athletes annually.*
  - **Unified Champion Schools Program:** *Building stronger school communities through fostering acceptance between students with disabilities and their peers, currently serving 86 Kentucky schools.*
- Other States:** 27 programs in 26 other states currently receive a state appropriation for various programs including support for sports competitions, Healthy Athletes, Unified Champion Schools and general programming needs.

### Who Receives State Funding?\*

