



TRAINING FOR ALL AGES | HEALTHY ATHLETES | CERTIFIED COACHES | EQUITABLE COMPETITION | SHARED ACHIEVEMENT



# FACT SHEET

609 - 896 - 8000 / [WWW.SONJ.ORG](http://www.sonj.org)

**THE MISSION OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY IS TO PROVIDE YEAR-ROUND SPORTS TRAINING AND ATHLETIC COMPETITION IN 24 OLYMPIC-TYPE SPORTS TO CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES GIVING 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.**

**TODAY, MORE THAN 18,000 SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES FROM MORE THAN 400 COMMUNITIES IN 21 COUNTIES PARTICIPATE IN APPROXIMATELY 160 SPORTS EVENTS YEAR-ROUND. SPECIAL OLYMPICS TRAINING PROGRAMS EXISTS IN SCHOOLS, COMMUNITY AGENCIES, AND INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLDS.**

**LOCAL, REGIONAL AND STATEWIDE SPECIAL OLYMPICS COMPETITIONS ARE CONDUCTED IN 24 OLYMPIC-TYPE SPORTS GOVERNED BY NATIONAL SPORTS GOVERNING BODIES AND HELD IN FOUR SPORTS SEASON AS FOLLOWS:**

**FALL SPORTS FESTIVAL:** CYCLING, EQUESTRIAN, FLAG FOOTBALL, GOLF, SOCCER, VOLLEYBALL

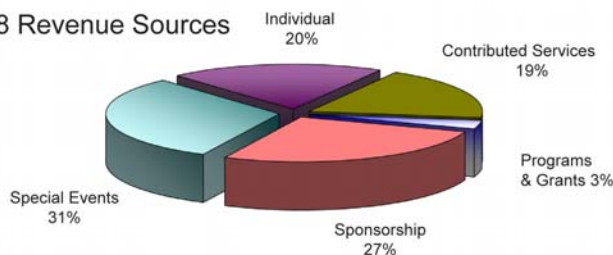
**WINTER GAMES:** ALPINE SKIING, CROSS COUNTRY SKIING, FIGURE SKATING, FLOOR HOCKEY, SNOW BOARDING, SNOW SHOEING, SPEED SKATING

**SPRING SPORTS FESTIVAL:** BASKETBALL, BOWLING, MOTOR ACTIVITIES TRAINING PROGRAM (MATP)\*

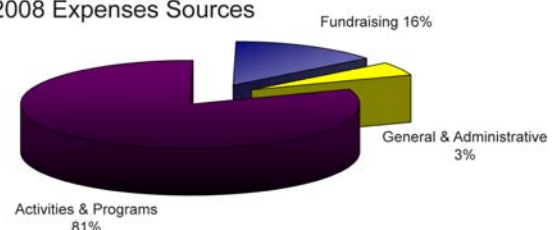
**SUMMER GAMES:** AQUATICS, BOCCE, GYMNASTICS (RHYTHMIC & ARTISTIC), POWER LIFTING, SAILING, SOFTBALL, TENNIS, AND TRACK & FIELD (MATP ARE SKILLS BASED ACTIVITIES FOR ATHLETES WITH PROFOUND DISABILITIES)

**FUNDING FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS COMES FROM INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS, CIVIC AND CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS, SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS & GRANTS. LESS THAN 2% OF FUNDING CAME FROM GOVERNMENT SOURCES. IN 2008, 81 CENTS OF EVERY DOLLAR SPENT WENT TO PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY SERVING ATHLETES.**

2008 Revenue Sources



2008 Expenses Sources



**VOLUNTEERS DRIVE THE MISSION** STARTING WITH THE VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF INDIVIDUALS WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS AS COACHES, EVENT MANAGERS, SPORTS DIRECTORS, AND GENERAL OPERATIONS ASSISTANTS RESULT IN A TRUE OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE FOR THE ATHLETES.

**THE HISTORY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS BEGAN IN 1968**, WHEN EUNICE KENNEDY SHRIVER INTRODUCED THE WORLD TO THE FIRST-EVER INTERNATIONAL GAMES. IN 1970, SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW JERSEY HELD THE FIRST-EVER SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUMMER GAMES IN THE JOHNSTONE TRAINING CENTER.