

Special Olympics New Jersey
2018 Annual Report



**Special
Olympics**
New Jersey



50 YEARS
1968 - 2018

1968-2018

50 Years of Changing the Game



Table of Contents

Special Olympics 50th Anniversary.....2

A Message from our Chairperson and President.....4

Board of Trustees.....6

Area Directors.....7

Achievements in Sport - Training, Competition & Outreach.....8

Unified Sports® & Schools Program Highlights.....11

Fundraising Highlights.....12

Financial Review.....14

Corporate Partners.....16



LET ME WIN.
IF I CANNOT
WIN, LET ME BE
BRAVE IN MY
ATTEMPT."



Celebrating 50 Years

In 2018, Special Olympics New Jersey celebrated its 50th Anniversary of changing the lives and hopes of thousands of individuals with intellectual disabilities throughout the state.

For the athletes and their families, Special Olympics New Jersey has opened the door to unimagined possibilities.

For those who volunteer, support, and sponsor the Games, it inspires unprecedented pride and hope for a brighter future.

And for the schools, counties, and towns who host events, it transforms society, creating a more just and understanding environment for all, while demonstrating to the world the recognition of the value of every human being.

Throughout 2018, Special Olympics New Jersey highlighted the organization's 50th Anniversary with several special events.

A Champion's Reception • April 5, 2018

A Champions Reception was held at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, NJ that raised over \$150,000. Inspiring videos, athlete appearances, and Champion Medal Presentations highlighted the program. Guests then enjoyed a Frankie Valli concert.



Change the Game Day • July 20, 2018

Change the Game Day featured an Open House and BBQ celebration at the SONJ Sports Complex where community members toured the facility and learned about SONJ programming. Following the Open House, over 300 volunteers, athletes, family members, Board of Trustees members, and sponsors attended a BBQ reception, where the 50th Anniversary section of the Tribute Patio was dedicated. Athletes, volunteers & family members reflected on the past 50 years and the vision of a promising future.

A Message from our Chairperson and President

**Special
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50 YEARS
1968 - 2018

Dear Friends of Special Olympics New Jersey,

Special Olympics New Jersey embraced a historic year in 2018 by celebrating years of milestones for its 50th Anniversary! Through the power of sport, this organization has changed the lives and hopes of thousands of children and adults with intellectual disabilities, as well as their families and communities, across our state.

From a few hundred athletes participating in the 1960's and 1970's to over 26,000 athletes we serve today, Special Olympics New Jersey has grown exponentially. Opportunities in sports and competition became widely available in the 1980's and 1990's. The arrival of the 2000's followed with increased athlete leadership opportunities, enhanced athlete health screenings, creation of the Young Athletes program, robust Unified programming and the opening of the SONJ Sports Complex – leading to a decade of steady growth. In 2014, New Jersey became the third state in the country to host the Special Olympics USA Games. Fifty years after the founding of Special Olympics New Jersey, the organization continues to offer training and competition opportunities in 24 sports to athletes around the state year-round, all at no cost to the athletes and their families.

As we reflect on our rich past and celebrate our current strong presence, we must also look towards the next 50 years. The momentum started in 1968 by Mrs. Shriver has helped change social attitudes towards individuals with intellectual disabilities; however, there is still much more we can achieve together with your support. As the core of our vision states: we will foster acceptance and inclusion through the power of sport!

To our athletes, Unified partners, families, volunteers, supporters and sponsors, thank you for being part of this iconic year! In your own way, you have been part of a 50-year journey to 'Change the Game.'

In the spirit of Special Olympics,

Maria Fischer
Chairperson, 2018 Board of Trustees

Heather Andersen
President & CEO

Our Mission

To provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in the sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.



Our Vision

Special Olympics New Jersey will foster inclusive communities for people with and without intellectual disabilities through innovative sport, health, wellness, and leadership opportunities for Special Olympics athletes, their families, and society as a whole.



Our Core Values

Our mission and vision are supported by the core values that shape every decision we make. By sticking to these values, we are guaranteeing the continued success of Special Olympics New Jersey.

- **Innovation** – To promote an organizational culture that seeks new ideas and advances the mission of Special Olympics
- **Excellence** – The standard measure for superior execution and outcome of every dimension of activity and service conducted by Special Olympics New Jersey
- **Integrity** – To execute the mission of Special Olympics with a commitment to transparency, honesty and the highest ethical conduct
- **Respect** – A commitment to the value of each and every individual and an acknowledgment of their unique talents and achievements
- **Inclusion** – To connect people of all abilities by creating opportunities with a purpose of building lasting friendships, rooted in mutual respect and acceptance

2018 Year-End Board of Trustees

CHAIRPERSON

Maria Fischer

Hinkle, Fingles, Prior & Fischer
Attorneys at Law

1ST VICE CHAIRMAN

Michael L. Ostrowsky

Bressler, Amery & Ross

2ND VICE CHAIRMAN

D. Nicholas Miceli

TD Bank

SECRETARY

Joseph Ritzel

Day & Zimmermann

TREASURER

Thomas H. Comiskey

M&T Bank

Lori Acker

Delta Dental of NJ & CT

Ronald L. Perl

Hill Wallack LLP

Chief Robert Belfiore, Retired

NJ Law Enforcement Torch Run

Patti Smith

Krauter & Company

Colleen Ciecura

SONJ Athlete

Tom Varga

Metrographics

Jeannine D'Onofrio

Tommy Hilfiger

Jennifer Velez

RWJBarnabas Health

Jason Finkelstein

Cole Schotz P.C.

Joel Wagner

Ernst & Young, LLP

Fred Graziano, Retired

TD Bank

Barbara Wallace

Twp. of Washington

Greg Matteo

JLL

Peter Wenger, MD

Princeton Sports & Family Medicine

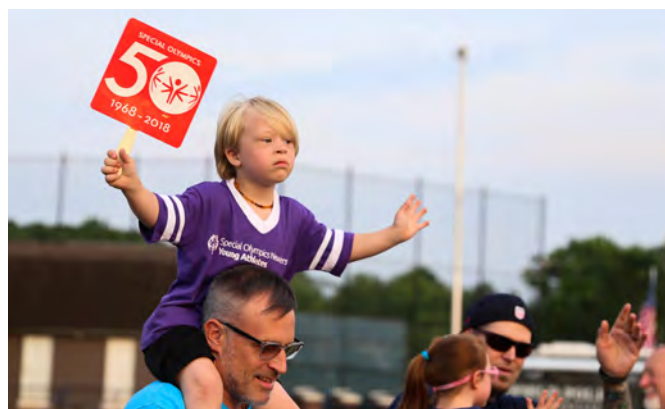
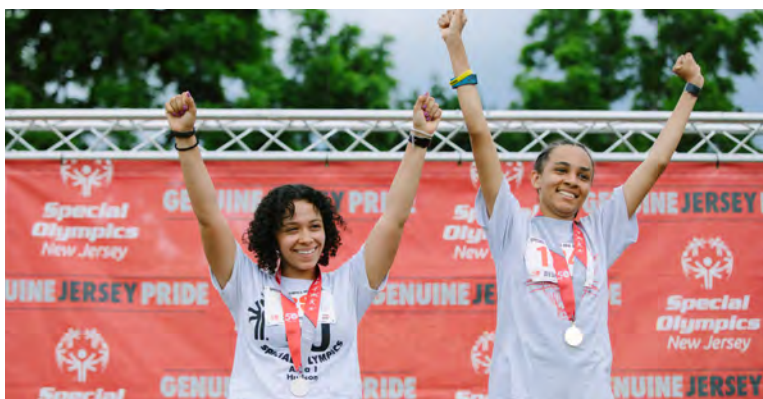
Angelo J. Onofri

Mercer County Prosecutor

Charles Wimberg

Atlantic City Electric





2018 Area Directors

Ruben Concepcion

Area 1 - Hudson County

Rich Deska

Area 2 - Passaic County

Betty Lunn

Area 3 - Morris, Sussex & Warren Counties

Kathy Creveling

Area 4 - Hunterdon County

Karen Lewicki

Area 5 - Middlesex & Union Counties

Jeri Hickey

Area 6 - Monmouth & Ocean Counties

Marianne Aponte

Area 7 - Camden, Gloucester & Salem Counties

Linda Cobb

Area 8 - Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties

Frank Petrucci

Area 9 - Essex County

Chris & Larry Hanco

Area 10 - Somerset County

Pat Jackson

Area 11 - Mercer County

Garth D. Brown

Area 12 - Bergen County

Kate Maloney

Area 13 - Burlington County

2018 Achievements in Sport - Training, Competition & Outreach

Team New Jersey



Team New Jersey proudly represented at the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle, Washington, dressed head-to-toe in attire donated by Tommy Hilfiger. 60 athletes and Unified partners competed across 10 sports, collecting more than 100 medals and receiving many accolades on their performance as a team. Of note: the Moorestown Unified basketball team from New Jersey won the gold medal in Division 2 of the first ever interscholastic Unified high school basketball competition at a USA Games.



Leo Leadership Conference

More than 60 Leos (youth component of the Lions Clubs) from middle and high schools across the state, attended the inaugural Leo Leadership conference at the Special Olympics New Jersey Sports Complex. This conference highlighted the ideals of "project inclusion," a tenant in the global partnership between Lions and Special Olympics.





Special Olympics New Jersey's Summer Games was chosen as one of the first sites in the United States to host for the Special Olympics North America Quality Games Training. Programs from around the country sent representatives to learn, understand, and establish best practices based on SONJ's Summer Games that can be used as a resource for programs in developing their Games for the future.

Health

Special Olympics New Jersey engaged its athletes with many health and fitness programs and events throughout 2018. Over 2,900 screenings were performed on SONJ athletes throughout the year in health disciplines, performance training, nutritional counseling, and included close to 200 free physical examinations.



Young Athletes continued to grow community programs in 2018 through relationships with public libraries around the state and school-based programming with the Department of Education, NJ Association for the Education of Young Children, and the NJ Head Start Association. Over 5,000 young athletes and Unified partners participated in home, community, and school-based programming.



Coach Education

Through the new accredited Coach Education System, more than 200 coaches earned a Bronze, Silver or Gold Level Certification. SONJ launched the revised Principles of Coaching course and certified 30 coaches in its first year.



2018 Unified Sports® & Schools Program Highlights

Unified Champion Schools: Inclusion is the Revolution!

Special Olympics New Jersey is partnering with over 200 schools across the state to support them in becoming Unified Champion Schools. This year, over 19,000 youth of all abilities, in elementary, middle, high school and college, were impacted by Special Olympics Unified Sports, Inclusive Youth Leadership and school-wide education and awareness experiences. Over 7,700 Unified athletes participated in NJSIAA/SONJ Interscholastic Sports, Unified Cups, Unified Intramurals, and Unified Physical Education, while thousands of students were involved in Youth Summits, Respect Weeks, and Unified Leadership Clubs.



Rowan University Banner Presentation

As the Global Presenting Sponsor for Unified Sports, ESPN chose to highlight exceptional schools across the country as 2018 National Banner Unified Champion Schools. The national banner recognition program honors Special Olympics Unified Champions Schools from elementary through college that foster inclusive communities. Rowan University was one of seven collegiate programs awarded a banner in 2018 and was the **only collegiate program in ESPN's "Top Five."** Five high schools and two middle schools from New Jersey also received a banner in 2018.



2018 Fundraising Highlights

Unified 5K Run

The second annual Unified 5K Run traded in the trails for sidewalks at the Rowan University campus. The 5K was held in conjunction with the ESPN Class of 2018 National Banner Unified Champion Schools banner unveiling ceremony.



Garden State Unified Golf Classic

The second Garden State Unified Golf Classic held at Laurel Creek Country Club in Mt. Laurel helped increase awareness within the South Jersey community. More than 25 South Jersey based companies participated in the event helping to raise \$75,000.

United Airlines officially came on as a Special Olympics global partner in 2018, furthering the partner relationship between SONJ and United. In addition to being a Presenting Sponsor of the Plane Pull at Newark Liberty International Airport, United also supported local sports training and competition programs.



TD Bank

Over the past ten years, from Maine to Florida, the multi-state TD Bank Campaign has raised over \$11 million for Special Olympics. In 2018, proceeds to Special Olympics New Jersey totaled over \$340,000.



Wawa

Wawa's annual coin and scan card campaigns raised over \$350,000. In addition, the Wawa Foundation pledged to support Special Olympics 50th Anniversary celebrations and Unified teams who competed at the 2018 USA Games.



Carrying the Flame for 35 Years



2018 marked the 35th Anniversary of the New Jersey Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR), one of the oldest Torch Runs and top fundraising programs in the world. It started in 1984 with 40 officers who ran through eight towns, covering 34 miles, and raising \$7,000. The New Jersey LETR has grown into a statewide movement comprised of thousands of law enforcement officers raising more of \$3 million annually, while also promoting awareness for Special Olympics athletes in communities across the state.

Historical Plunge Season

On February 24, the Polar Bear Plunge in Seaside Heights celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2018 by shattering records. There were 7,161 plungers registered who took the icy dip into the Atlantic Ocean and raised over \$2.2 million.



Statue of Liberty 5K

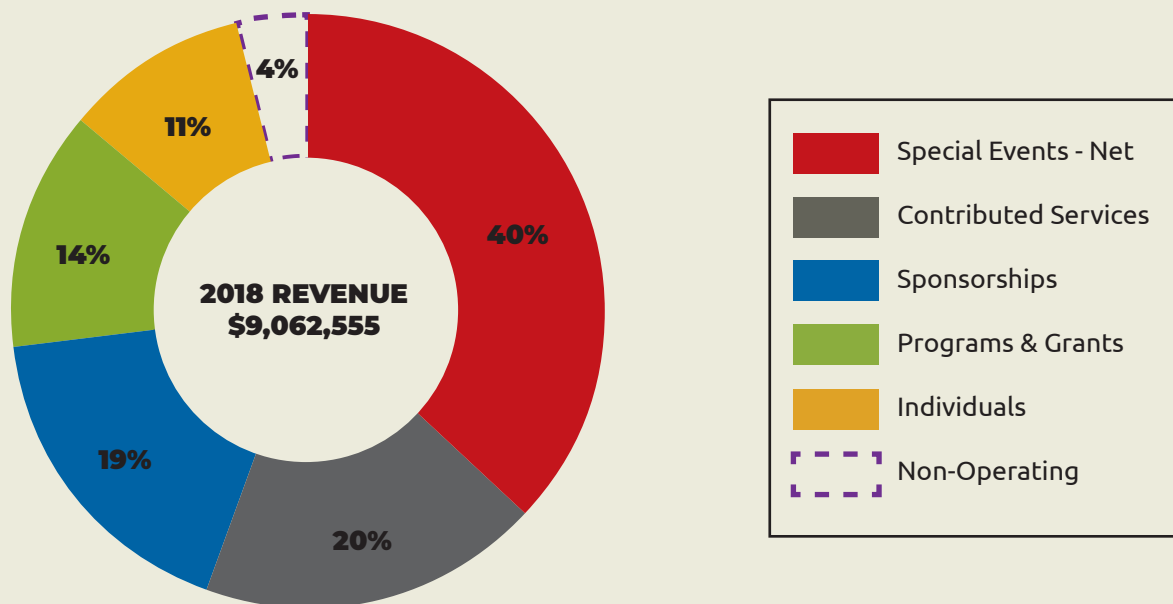
The July 4th Statue of Liberty 5K experienced a record-breaking year. A field of 500 runners and walkers enjoyed this early morning event on Liberty Island and raised over \$59,000 for Special Olympics New Jersey.



2018 Financial Review

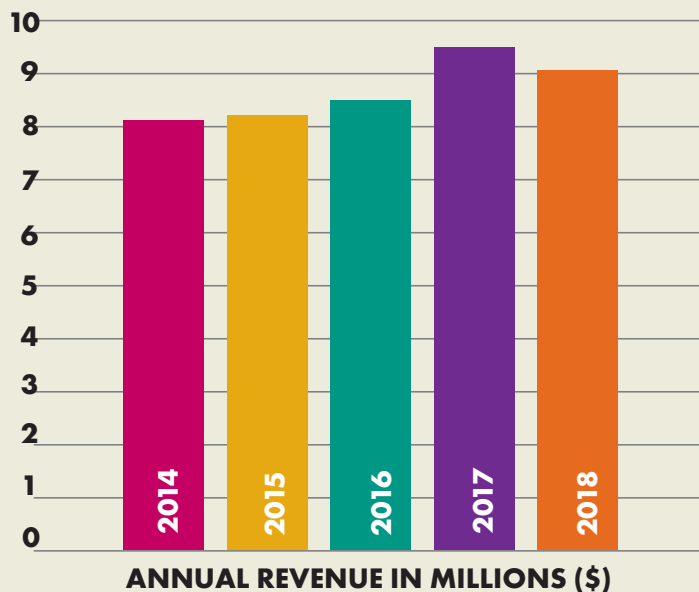
Revenue

Special Olympics New Jersey continues to show growth in 2018 with revenue and support totaling over \$9 million. Through continued fundraising efforts, special events, support from individual donors, and continued commitment by corporate partners and organizations, Special Olympics New Jersey shows a strong financial position. Below are the amounts reflected by the 2018 audited financial statements.



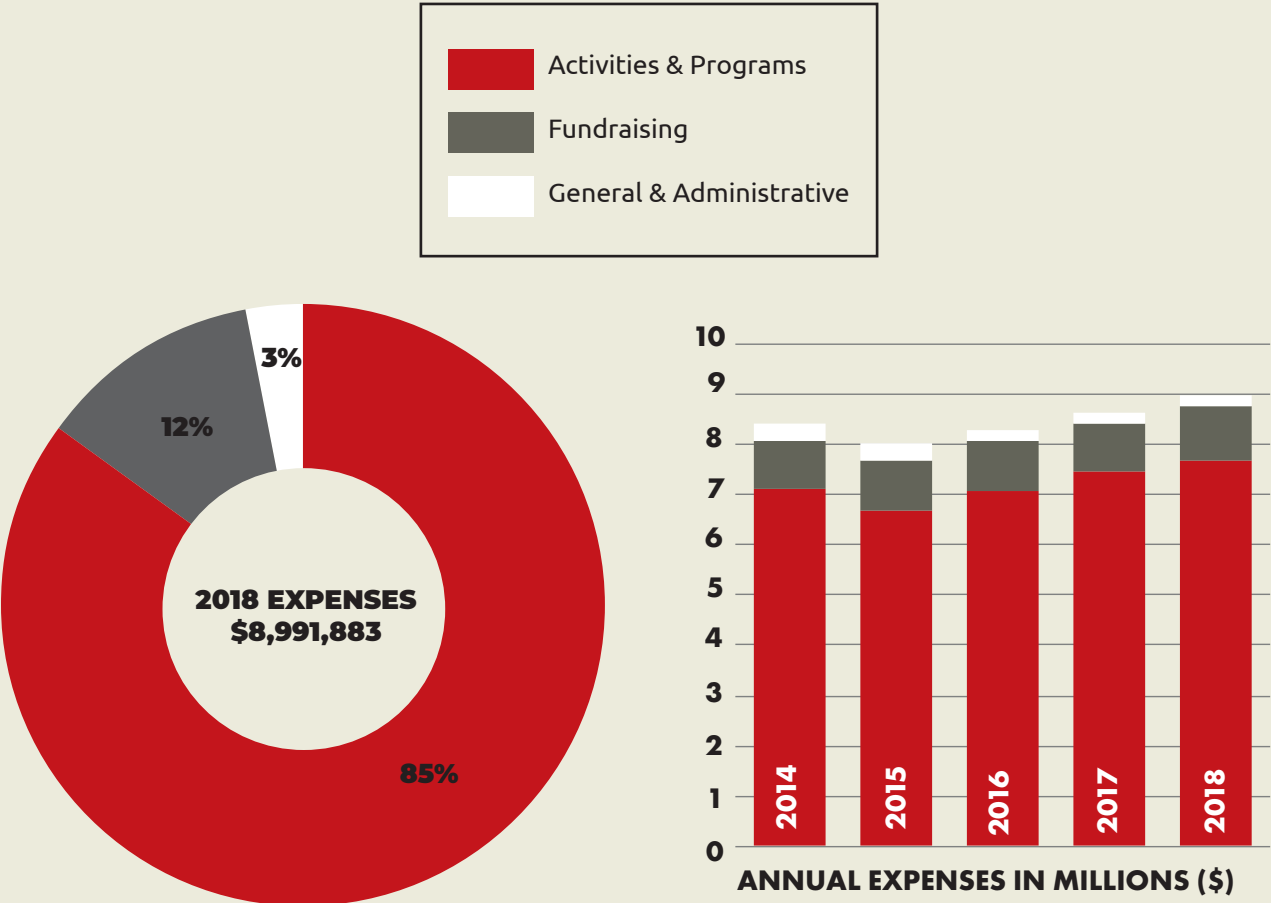
ANNUAL REVENUE SUMMARY

2014	\$8,142,081
2015	\$8,235,097
2016	\$8,496,895
2017	\$9,488,047
2018	\$9,062,555



Expenses

Total expenses for the year were \$8.9 million, with **85% of every dollar** spent benefiting athletes through activities and programs - well exceeding the industry standard of 70-75%.



ANNUAL EXPENSES SUMMARY

	Activities & Programs	Fundraising	General & Administrative
2014	\$7,109,927	\$975,435	\$344,076
2015	\$6,671,489	\$1,001,435	\$353,076
2016	\$7,082,380	\$973,034	\$244,111
2017	\$7,461,487	\$942,686	\$240,444
2018	\$7,685,025	\$1,060,330	\$246,528

2018 Corporate Partners

Champion Partner



Diamond Partners



America's Most Convenient Bank®



Premier Partners



Platinum Partners



2018 Corporate Partners (cont.)

Gold Medal Partners

Amerigroup RealSolutions
Bayer Foundation
BlackRock
Bristol-Myers Squibb
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Church & Dwight Employee Giving Fund
FedEx Corporation
FlagHouse, Inc.
Garden State Fireworks
Hinkle, Fingles, Prior & Fischer, Attorneys at Law
Inspira Health Network
M & T Bank
Munich Reinsurance America, Inc.
Strider Sports Int'l, Inc.
The College of the New Jersey
The Grainger Foundation
The Metro NY/NJ Spa and Pool Association

Silver Medal Partners

Bob's Discount Furniture
BOMA NJ
Janssen Pharmaceuticals
North Jersey Masters Track and Field Club
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Waste Management

Bronze Medal Partner

Novo Nordisk, Inc.

2018 Law Enforcement Torch Run Partners

Italian-American Police Society of New Jersey
New Jersey Fraternal Order of Police
New Jersey Knights of Columbus
New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association
Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department

2018 USA Games Supporters

Academy Bus
Bimbo Bakeries USA
Columbia Bank
GFF Foundation

FedEx
Property Casualty Insurers Association of America/NJM
Shri Krishna Nidhi Foundation Inc.
United Airlines

Wawa

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Special Olympics New Jersey

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