

## NON-PROFIT OF THE MONTH

Special Olympics Southern California -Santa Barbara Region empowers individuals with intellectual disabilities to improve their health and overall wellness through year-round sports training and competition. Special Olympics services over 650 local children and adults with intellectual disabilities through their year-round sports competitions, in which 12 Olympic-type sports are available to athletes.



The Champion School Program is built upon the premise that in order to have the greatest impact the change process needs to start with young people. Champion Schools brings youth with and without intellectual disabilities together through education, sports, and related initiatives that provide them with the knowledge, attitudes and skills necessary to create and sustain school communities that promote the acceptance, respect and human dignity for all students. Special Olympics Santa Barbara Region currently has collaboration agreement with San Marcos High and Santa Barbara High School.



Special Olympics also provides School Games, which provides local youth throughout seven school districts in Santa Barbara County the opportunity to compete against their peers, through track and field competitions in the spring and soccer competitions in the fall.

Another great program that Special Olympics Santa Barbara currently has is the Global Messenger Program,

which promotes leadership skills, public speaking opportunities, and empowering the Global Messengers as Athlete Ambassadors. Special Olympics Santa Barbara Region currently has 10 athletes participating in the Global Messenger Program.

All of the programs offered by Special Olympics are at no cost to the athlete or family. Special Olympics raises monies throughout the year through fundraising events, grants, and community donations.

