Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you've expressed interest in Special Olympics Hawaii. Don't forget to add e-news@specialolympicshawaii.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

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February 2020 E-Newsletter

Mahalo To Our Mission Partners

First Hawaiian Bank.  
Par Hawaii  
Walmart

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Mahalo To Our Year-Round Partners

California Pizza Kitchen  
Safeway Foundation  
Star Advertiser

Dine and Dough-nate at the 30th Annual Tip a Cop Fundraiser

There's a new server in town! Volunteer, off-duty law enforcement from around Oahu will be trading in their badges to serve YOU during Special Olympics Hawaii's 30th Annual Tip a Cop Fundraiser. The event takes place at all seven California Pizza Kitchen locations on Friday, March 13, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday, March 14, and Sunday, March 15, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The annual fundraiser will raise awareness and collect donations for Special Olympics Hawaii's athletes and programs.

Honolulu Police Chief and Special Olympics Hawaii Board Member Chief Susan Ballard will put on an apron at the Kahala Mall CPK on Friday, March 13 during dinner.
Don’t Forget to Register for Polar Plunge!

Registration is now open for the 11th Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, April 18, 2020. To register visit sohawaii.org.

Join our Team for the Oahu Visitor Industry Charity Walk

If you would like to donate or register to participate, visit sohawaii.org or text Oahu151 to 71777.

Cheer For Our Champions on May 29!

Tickets are now on sale for the annual Special Olympics Hawaii Cheer for Champions fundraiser on Wednesday, May 29 from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at University of Hawaii’s Les Murakami Stadium. Former University of Hawaii basketball player and Spectrum Sports commentator, Kawika Hallums, will be emceeing the event while guests enjoy heavy pupus, drinks, a silent auction and a wine pull, as well as complimentary valet service provided by Elite Parking Services.

Guests will experience all of the excitement welcoming athletes and coaches from across the state to the Opening Ceremonies of the 52nd Annual State Summer Games. The event will also celebrate over 1,000 law enforcement officers as they carry the Flame of Hope into the stadium to light the cauldron and officially open the weekend competition.

Individual tickets are $300 per ticket. Sponsored tables for 10 guests are available at the following levels: $10,000 for Gold Medal, $5,000 for Silver Medal and $3,000 for Bronze Medal. For more information, contact Tracey Bender at traceyb@sohawaii.org.

First Responders Submission and Grappling Invitational

“This year Tip a Cop celebrates three decades bringing together the community and local law enforcement through delicious food,” said Nancy Bottelo, president and CEO of Special Olympics Hawaii. “We are excited and grateful to be partnering with California Pizza Kitchen again this year and hope that supporters will come out to enjoy their favorite pizza and know that their dough-nations go towards providing year-round sports and health services for our athletes and promoting a more inclusive community.”

During the event, law enforcement from the Honolulu Police Department, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division, United States Marine Corps, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the U.S. Probations Office District of Hawaii will put their serving skills to the test by volunteering to clear tables, run food and assist servers in efforts to raise tips for Special Olympics Hawaii’s programs. Since its inception, Tip a Cop has raised $340,409 for Special Olympics Hawaii.

Congratulations Kristina Ho - Winner
At our 2019 Holiday Classic, OrangeTheory Fitness trainers challenged Special Olympics Hawaii athletes to complete the 3-2-1 Fitness Challenge. Photos of athletes doing the exercises were submitted via text to the state office. Special Olympics athlete, Kristina Ho, won this challenge as she texted photos almost every day, even while on vacation and at the airport -- she even got her family involved! We are so proud of her as she demonstrated great commitment, motivation and enthusiasm. Mahalo to OrangeTheory Fitness - Kakaako for their support of this challenge!

Special Olympics Hawaii Meets With Maui Senator

This month, Special Olympics Hawaii staff had the opportunity to meet with Maui Senator Gil Keith-Agaran and Bruce Coppa today to share more about our work creating a more inclusive community and serving individuals and their families with intellectual disabilities.

Teddy’s Bigger Burgers Icon Campaign

Last month, Special Olympics Maui hosted its annual First Responders Submission Grappling Invitational on January 18, 2020 at the Historic Iao Theater. The event included friendly, competitive matches against trained Maui Police Department, Maui Fire Department and American Medical Response staff, all to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Maui athletes.

The exciting festivities kicked off with Mayor Mike Victorino who presented a proclamation for the event. Maui Police Captain Clyde Holokai, Maui Fire Captain Chris Platiro and AMR Paramedic Andrea Moller were all co-chairs of the fundraiser, spending the last year organizing the "battle of the badges" event. Their vision was to highlight the collaboration between the first responders who serve the community. Special Olympics athlete Casey Gamiao was once again the star of the evening, competing against Maui Fire Captain Chris Platiro. Congratulations to the Maui Fire Department for bringing the heat!

Unified Spotlight: First-Ever Elementary School Leadership Conference
Orders up! Stop by the Kapiolani and Wahiawa Teddy’s Bigger Burgers locations from March 9 to April 30, 2020, and help support the dreams of our local athletes by making a donation to our Gold Medal icon campaign.

Another Successful MedFest

Earlier this month, Kaiser Permanente physicians and staff at the Mapunapuna Medical Office conducted 54 free exams during MedFest 2020, an annual event that provides comprehensive physical screenings for athletes of all ages competing in Special Olympics Hawaii!

Holoholo Club

**Windward Mall - Every Tues. Afternoon**
4:00 - 4:30 pm in front of Big City Diner

**Ala Moana Center - Every Wed. Afternoon**
4:00 - 4:30 pm in front of Target on Mall Level 2

**Top Walkers This Month:**

Parent - Randall Yokota, 227 miles
Athlete - Anuenuemakama, 210 miles
Athlete - Marcelino Galdones, 189 miles

**Overall Top Walker:**

Parent - Heidi Kreusling, 8,274 miles

Amazon Smile

Be sure to shop with Amazon Smile and select Special Olympics Hawaii. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to programs for our local athletes!

On Thursday, February 13, 2020 the first-ever Special Olympics Oahu Elementary School Leadership Conference took place. The conference was hosted by Waialua Elementary School's unified sports team and student leaders, and led by Waialua Elementary School inclusion teacher Kimi Kawachi. The Special Olympics Elementary School Leadership Conference was created in an effort to promote friendship and teamwork with other schools across Oahu. Kimi Kawachi has been the Head of Delegation for seven years and had her young leaders guide students from Hahaʻione Elementary School, Daniel K. Inouye Elementary School and Solomon Elementary School in games and activities focused on teamwork, unity, kindness and leadership.

The conference kicked off with 18 Waialua Elementary School leaders who greeted other schools and guests as they checked in for a welcome video and participated in ice breakers. It was truly a student-led event with young leaders directing inclusive teamwork activities. The young leaders kept the students and guests engaged while giving them reminders to stay on task.

The students met the goal of the conference which was to build leadership skills and to be more inclusive. During the conference, teachers also had the opportunity to ask questions regarding Special Olympics, Unified Sports, Unified Champion Schools, inclusion in schools and how to implement inclusion in their home campuses. Other schools that attended included Kalihi Kai Elementary School and Mokulele Elementary School. Teachers were excited to receive more information on becoming a Unified Champion School. We can't wait for many more successful conferences like this one!

Sponsor Feature: Servco Foundation
Hawaiian Miles

Share your HawaiianMiles and help our athletes!
Donate today!

This month we want to recognize one of our Year-Round Supporters, Servco Foundation. Servco Foundation has provided monetary and volunteer support throughout the years and even selected Special Olympics Hawaii to receive a $20,000 grant as part of their Centennial Service Campaign last year. In 2017 Servco Foundation helped raise more than $17,000 for our annual Polar Plunge fundraiser. Five of their executives including Chairman and CEO Mark Fukunaga, President and COO Rick Ching and President of Servco Home and Appliance and Special Olympics Hawaii Board Member, Craig Washofsky also went above and beyond and participated in taking the plunge!

Servco Foundation also continues to support our Cheer for Champions event as a Silver Medal Table Sponsor and makes donations to the silent auction. In addition, as Silver Medal Sponsors of the annual state Summer Games, Servco Foundation employees, known as Team Serve, volunteer to run our track and field awards.

"We are extremely grateful for all that the Servco Foundation has done for Special Olympics Hawaii throughout the years," says Nancy Bottelo, president & CEO of Special Olympics Hawaii. "We also want to give a big mahalo to Craig Washofsky, who continues to provide us with wonderful support and leadership!"