



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Friday, February 10, 2023

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Spring into Action and Support Local Athletes with Special Olympics Hawaii's Spring Fundraisers

*Two annual fundraising events return in March, to benefit local
Special Olympics Hawaii athletes statewide*

Photos and videos for consideration: <https://we.tl/t-fp9WOYuvS5>

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HONOLULU – Special Olympics Hawaii kicks off the year with the return of two fundraisers – Tip A Cop and Paradise Plunge – benefitting local athletes with intellectual disabilities statewide. Supporters are invited to leave “tips” at participating Tip A Cop locations from Friday, March 3 through Sunday, March 5 or make a splash by signing up for Paradise Plunge starting Monday, March 13.

“We continue to be inspired by the dedication of our supporters, donors, partners, and volunteers who always rise to the challenge to give to our athletes,” said Special Olympics Hawaii’s Director of Development, Tracey Bender. “Our supporters play an integral role in our work to provide programs for our athletes to train and compete at no cost to them or their families.”

32nd Annual Tip A Cop

Volunteer, off-duty law enforcement personnel on Oahu will get a taste for what it’s like to serve at popular restaurants during this year’s 32nd Annual Tip A Cop. The annual event takes place at Kahala Mall, Ka Makana Ali’i, and Pearlridge Center at California Pizza Kitchen, Goma Tei, and The Counter Custom Burgers. The event aims to raise awareness and collect tips (donations) for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes and programs. Since its inception, Tip A Cop has raised \$409,598 for Special Olympics Hawaii. The event will take place during the following dates and times:

California Pizza Kitchen – Ka Makana Ali‘i, Kahala Mall, and Pearlridge Center

- Friday, March 3, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Goma Tei – Kahala Mall and Pearlridge Center

- Friday, March 3, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Counter Custom Burgers at Kahala Mall

- Friday, March 3, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, March 4, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, March 5, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

4th Annual Paradise Plunge

The 4th Annual Paradise Plunge returns inviting supporters to make a splash and share a video or photo of themselves participating in a water activity in support of Special Olympics Hawaii athletes. Registration for this year’s Paradise Plunge will open on Monday, March 13, at 8 a.m.

Plungers are asked to raise a minimum \$100 donation and will receive a Paradise Plunge event shirt. A reduced fundraising goal of \$50 is offered to students through college and additional mahalo gifts will be awarded to “Passionate Plungers” who raise \$500 and “Super Plungers” who raise \$1,000.

Participants can take the plunge by planning a day to “sea” their favorite beach, going diving, boating, surfing, or even taking a dip in a swimming pool. Plungers can then send photos or a 60-second, horizontal video clip of themselves performing their “Paradise Plunge” via www.wetransfer.com to development@sohawaii.org. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, April 30. Following the completion of the event, Special Olympics Hawaii will release a 2023 Paradise Plunge compilation video on Friday, May 5, that participants are “shore” to enjoy and can share with donors and supporters.

Proceeds from both fundraisers will help Special Olympics Hawaii continue to provide year-round sports trainings and competition and health, wellness and leadership programs for over 3,400 athletes statewide with intellectual disabilities, free of charge. Since 1968, Special Olympics has been changing attitudes about the talents of people with intellectual disabilities and raising awareness to build an inclusive and unified community.

For more information on Tip A Cop and Paradise Plunge, please visit www.sohawaii.org. Follow Special Olympics Hawaii on Twitter at www.twitter.com/sohawaii, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii, and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/sohawaii.

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About Special Olympics Hawaii

Special Olympics is a global movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports, every day around the world. Through programming in sports, health, education and community building, Special Olympics is changing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities solving the global injustice, isolation, intolerance, and inactivity they face.

Founded in 1968, Special Olympics Hawaii has grown and now serves over 6,000 athletes and Unified partners across the State of Hawaii. Through the unwavering commitment of 10,000 volunteers, along with community supporters, corporate partners and foundations, Special Olympics Hawaii delivers 10 Olympic-type sports and over 50 competitions, hundreds of health screenings, and inclusive programming in more than 70 schools annually.

There is never a fee to any athlete or family to participate in Special Olympics programs. Engage with us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). Learn more at www.sohawaii.org.