



SOHlghlights: July 2020 Edition

As we explore safe ways to return to the playing field we have expanded our newsletter to include more topics and information relevant to you - our Special Olympics ohana. Our new and expanded "SOHlghlights" newsletter will continue to provide information on health, fitness, and wellness, as well as upcoming events, fundraisers, and more. Thank you for your continued support of Special Olympics Hawaii!

Visit our Website

Special Olympics Hawaii Makes a Splash with New Paradise Plunge Fundraiser

As we safely get into the swim of things, Special Olympics Hawaii decided to reinvent our traditional, in-person Polar Plunge fundraiser into a newly created event we're calling the "Paradise Plunge." This new format allows participants to safely support local athletes by sharing a video or photos of themselves taking a dip in the ocean or performing any type of water activity – such as beach bodyboarding, surfing, or taking the plunge in a swimming pool. To sign up, make a donation or for more information on how to participate, please visit: www.sohawaii.org.

The Paradise Plunge is open to individuals, families and student groups, and anyone else who wants to take the plunge to support Special Olympics Hawaii athletes. All plungers are asked to raise a minimum \$100 donation to receive a Paradise Plunge event shirt. There is a reduced fundraising goal of \$50 for students of all ages, elementary through college. Participants can take the plunge by planning a day visiting their favorite beach and going diving, boating, surfing, or even taking a dip in the swimming pool if they'd prefer. Plungers are asked to send photos or a 60-second, horizontal and unedited video clip of themselves making waves performing their "Paradise Plunge" at WeTransfer.com to development@sohawaii.org. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, August 30. Following the completion of the event, Special Olympics Hawaii will release a 2020 Paradise Plunge compilation video for participants to enjoy and to share with donors and supporters. We would like to thank our partners statewide whose support is key to making year-round sports, inclusion and health opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities a reality. A special mahalo to this year's Paradise Plunge sponsor Hawaiian Telcom who is providing Silver Medal support.



Virtual Cheer for Champions Raises \$153,478!

Thank you to all of those who supported our first-ever, virtual Cheer for Champions fundraiser. The event took place online over a three-day period from June 17 through June 19 with a special, live broadcast, online auction and a musical performance by Maila Gibson and Ho'okena. Delicious meals from Alan Wong's, Kuoha Culinary, Pai Honolulu, Poke Stop, Roy's, Scratch Kitchen, along with desserts from Dipped by Dee and Kimo's Delights were



delivered to sponsors, event guests and participants' homes by Elite Delivery.

A special mahalo to this year's sponsors:

- Gold Medal sponsors First Hawaiian Bank, James Campbell Company, Motiv8 Foundation, Nordic PCL Construction and Royal Contracting.
- Silver Medal sponsors Elite Parking Services, Hawaiian Electric, The Howard Hughes Corporation, Kalaeloa Partners LLC, Matson and the Servco Foundation.
- Bronze Medal sponsors Akamine, Oyadamori,

Kosaki CPAs, Bank of Hawaii, Bays Lung Rose and Holma, BMK Construction, Dorvin D Leis Co., and Pasha Hawaii.

Thanks to your support this year's virtual Cheer for Champions fundraiser raised more than \$153,478 for our athletes!

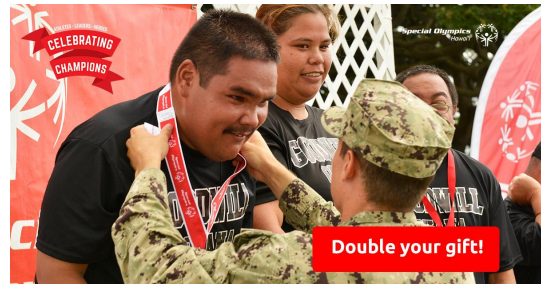
Proceeds from this event will help us continue to provide virtual and online programs during the pandemic and will help with the purchasing of PPE supplies and the equipment needed for a safe "return to play" for over 3,400 athletes with intellectual disabilities.

Today is Your Last Chance to Help Celebrate Our Champions!

This month is Celebrating Champions month and we're honoring all the Special Olympics athletes here and around the world who stand up for inclusion on and off the field, day in and day out. Please join us and make a gift before midnight tonight and your donation will be matched by the Coca-Cola Company to support twice as many athletes in our islands. Plus, your name will also be featured on the Virtual Giving Wall!

We are so proud of our athletes who shatter stereotypes and exceed their personal bests on the playing field and in life. We know there are more inspiring Special Olympics athletes in Hawaii waiting for their chance to participate when the time is right. Your gift will get us that much closer to reaching every single one of them.

Please join us and have your gift MATCHED today at: <https://bit.ly/CelebratingChampions>.



Wellness Corner: Beat the Heat!



This month we are excited to feature our new Health Community Manager, Walker Rowsey for this edition's wellness tip. Walker is the newest member to join our Special Olympics Hawaii ohana and we look forward to giving him a full and proper introduction in an upcoming edition.

As the summer heat kicks up, Walker shares his favorite snack idea that's both delicious, healthy and will stop you from melting all day long. For a healthy snack Walker shares, "Try eating frozen peas (yes, still frozen) like you would popcorn. They taste great and are a phenomenal source of protein that will also keep you cool!"

Special Acts of Aloha

Driving a Successful Cheer for Champions: Elite Delivery

We're extremely grateful to Elite Delivery and Elite Parking Services for their dedication and continued support of Special Olympics Hawaii. Last month Elite Delivery went above and beyond to help us deliver over 200 meals to nearly 100 different addresses for our first-ever virtual Cheer for Champions fundraiser. They were also a Silver Medal sponsor for this event, and helped with planning, coordinating restaurant participation, managing the online process of meal

selections for our sponsors and their guests, as well as providing a personalized touch for every delivery. A big mahalo to company Executive Vice President and Partner, Nina Nakaahiki for her leadership and support. She also serves on our Board of Directors and was the event chairperson for our Cheer for Champions committee. We'd also like to thank Cheer for Champions committee members Caroline Ekau, Wil Hom, Paul Jamison and Leika Leotele. Elite Delivery and Elite Parking Services continue to drive our Special Olympics Hawaii athletes forward through their exceptional work, dedication to excellence and generous giving. We are grateful and truly appreciative for their support!

Renee Manfredi Gives Back to Special Olympics Hawaii

A special mahalo to SONA Health Messenger, Terminators athlete and Special Olympics Hawaii board member Renee Manfredi for donating the \$1,000 stipend she received from editing materials to Special Olympics Hawaii. Thank you for your thoughtful donation and inspiring fellow board members to support Special Olympics Hawaii during this critical time.



A Special Drive-By Celebration for Nancy Bottelo's Retirement

Not even a pandemic could stop the Special Olympics Hawaii community from giving our former president and CEO Nancy Bottelo a memorable and heartfelt send-off on her last day! Dozens of cars lined up on June 30 to wish Nancy well on her retirement and to thank her for all of her contributions to making Special Olympics Hawaii into the organization it is today. The drive-by celebration was a way for everyone Nancy has worked with and touched over the years including partners, sponsors, board members, and athletes' families to celebrate Nancy's retirement in a safe way while following social distancing guidelines.

If you would like to honor Nancy's work and her service to Special Olympics Hawaii over the last 30 years, please feel free to make a donation [here](#).



Mahalo for your support!