

## Special Olympics Hawaii Newsletter: September 2022

Thank you for your continued support! Take a look to see what Special Olympics Hawaii has been up to this past month.

Support Our Athletes

### Mission Partners



### Year-Round Partners



### Year-Round Supporters



### Year-Round Trusted Media Partner



### Share the love with our athletes

An easy way to support our athletes is by shopping through [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). Be sure to shop with Amazon Smile and select Special Olympics Hawaii as your charity of choice. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to programs for our local athletes!

Got extra miles? Share your HawaiianMiles and help our athletes!

[Donate today!](#)



## What's Going On at Special Olympics Hawaii?

### Volunteer Law Enforcement "Serve" Diners for Tip A Cop

From serving our streets to serving your favorite meal, next month off-duty, volunteer law enforcement officers will join forces for Special Olympics Hawaii's Tip A Cop fundraiser. The event takes place at Oahu California Pizza Kitchen and Goma Tei locations at Ala Moana Center, Kahala Mall and Pearlridge Center. Tip A Cop aims to raise awareness and collect tips (or donations) for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes and programs. The event will take place during the following dates and times:

California Pizza Kitchen – Ala Moana Center, Kahala Mall and Pearlridge Center

- Friday, October 21, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.,
- Saturday, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, October 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Goma Tei – Ala Moana Center, Kahala Mall and Pearlridge Center

- Friday, October 21, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.,
- Saturday, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, October 23, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

During the event, law enforcement personnel from the Honolulu Police Department and the Department of Public Safety Sheriff Division will put their serving skills to the test by volunteering to clear tables, run food and assist servers to raise tips for Special Olympics Hawaii's programs. Since its inception, Tip a Cop has raised \$387,580 for Special Olympics Hawaii.



## Welcome, Brandon!



We are excited to welcome Special Olympics Hawaii's new Sports Director, Brandon Kim. Brandon received his MBA from Chaminade University and is currently studying to receive his MEd in kinesiology from the University of Texas. His background includes work in legislation and years spent as an elementary school teacher, in addition to organizing and implementing various sports programs for students across the islands. Most recently, Brandon worked at the Partners in Development Foundation's Project Pilina program where he developed and conducted community-based recruitment functions.

As the sports director, Brandon will be responsible for overseeing sports programs for all Special Olympics athletes, coaches and Unified Partners throughout the state. Please join us in extending a warm welcome to Brandon and we look forward to seeing his impact on our organization and programs.

## Athletes Receive Free Physical Exams from Kaiser Permanente

This month, Kaiser Permanente hosted two MedFest events for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes. On September 10, West Hawaii athletes received free screenings at the Kaiser Permanente Hawaii Kona Clinic for vision, height, weight, blood pressure, and cardiovascular and musculoskeletal health. The exams were performed by Kaiser Permanente Hawaii internal medicine physicians and medical staff.

The second MedFest event was held at the Special Olympics Hawaii Sports and Wellness Center on September 24. More than 30 Special Olympics Oahu athletes received free physical screenings to help them prepare for the upcoming winter season.



MedFest is an annual event that provides comprehensive physical screenings to athletes of all ages competing in Special Olympics Hawaii. Physical exams are needed to ensure it is safe for athletes to participate in training and competitions each year. Mahalo Kaiser Permanente, for all that you do to ensure our athletes are healthy and able to compete in their favorite sports.



## Health & Wellness Corner: Ready, Sweat, GO!



This month's Hale 'O Mauiola program set the bar high, with a great line-up of programs including our very own Special Olympics Hawaii athlete leading a Wednesday Workout. Our Wednesday Workouts featured yoga, bodyweight and dance cardio sessions led by community fitness professionals. We were excited to have Nicole Inouye, Special Olympics Hawaii athlete and health messenger, who directed a bodyweight workout for her peers. As part of Nicole's health messenger practicum, she created an exercise video to encourage everyone to stay active – even at home. Watch her workout [here](#).

And be sure to join us every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for our Hale 'O Mauiola program. To view the full schedule, [visit here](#).

### The Guardian: Cop On Top Celebrates Two Decades of Community Support

This year Cop on Top celebrated 20 years of raising funds for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes and programs. In 2022 we raised more than \$255,091 statewide during the three-day event. We are truly grateful for the outpouring of support we received from the community and our off-duty, volunteer law enforcement officers, site hosts and volunteers who gave their time to support Special Olympics Hawaii.

A special mahalo to all the dedicated off-duty, volunteer law enforcement officers from the Department of Defense, Hawaii Police Department, Honolulu Police Department, Kauai Police Department, Maui Police Department, NCIS, Department of Public Safety Sheriff Division, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, and U.S. Marines, as well as community volunteers who participated at this year's Cop on Top fundraiser. We also want to thank all the generous donors and our committed site sponsors: Enchanted Lake Shopping Center, Hawaii Kai Shopping Center, Ka Makana Ali'i, Kaneohe Bay Shopping Center, Laulani Village Shopping Center, Manoa Marketplace, Molokai Public Library, Salt Lake Shopping Center, Sam's Club Keeaumoku, Waimalu Plaza and Walmart.



### Sponsor Feature: Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa



We want to send a special mahalo to the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa for returning as the venue host for Over the Edge, where the event has been held with great success since 2014. This year's event will be held on Saturday, October 8, and the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa has been a terrific partner, working hand-in-hand with us to create an enjoyable and safe experience for all Over the Edge participants.

Throughout our partnership, they have gone above and beyond by providing complimentary rooms for our top fundraisers, meals for our volunteers and complimentary parking for all Over the Edge participants and volunteers. Additionally, the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa employees raise funds for our athletes and participate in the event each year. Over the Edge has raised over \$931,500 at the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa and will exceed over \$1,000,000 raised after this year's event.

The 400-foot rappel from the rooftop of Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa, and the scenic views of Diamond Head and Waikiki makes Over the Edge one of the most breathtaking experiences anywhere. This year, the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa will once again participate in the event with three rappellers including General Manager, Irby Morvant. Mahalo Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa for all that you do for Special Olympics Hawaii.



### Support Special Olympics Hawaii Athlete, Nicole Inouye As She Goes "Over the Edge"

Help Special Olympics Hawaii athlete, Nicole Inouye raise \$5,000 to go "Over the Edge." An angel donor will match your donation, dollar for dollar, to turn \$5,000 into \$10,000. [Support Nicole and make a donation today.](#)



### Donate and Receive This Year's Torch Run T-Shirt

There is still time to light up the hearts of our local athletes by making a donation online. For donations of \$30 or more, supporters will receive this year's limited-edition, commemorative Torch Run t-shirt.



### A Special Update on the Health and Fitness Building and Outdoor Play Court

Work on the new Health and Fitness Building and Outdoor Play Court is coming along! Mahalo to the Department of Defense Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program for their dedication and support to help create this special space for our athletes.



### This is the Last Week to 'Give Aloha'

Support our local athletes when you shop at Foodland! Through the end of the month visit any participating Foodland, Foodland Farms or Sack N Save and share our five-digit code (which is different depending on your area).

The codes are:

**Oahu: 77129**

**Kauai: 78566**

**West Hawaii: 78569**

Mahalo for your support!



### Making Waves at the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Surfing Classic

The 5th Annual Hawaii State Law Enforcement Surfing Classic took place on Saturday, July 30 and 31 at Queen's Beach in Waikiki. Law enforcement officers, first responders and their families participated individually and as teams, and raised more than \$2,000 for our athletes. Mahalo to the event team led by Gregg Arii, event creator Guy DeMello and everyone who participated.

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