

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release November 3, 2025

Media Contacts:

Crystal Yamasaki (808) 389-2890 crystal@crystalclearhawaii.com Jenna Tsuchida (808) 754-4019 jenna@crystalclearhawaii.com

Dishing Out Kindness: Off-Duty, Volunteer Law Enforcement Serve Up Support for Special Olympics Hawaii's Tip A Cop Fundraiser

Off-duty, volunteer officers will join forces with California Pizza Kitchen and Goma Tei restaurants to support local athletes and programs, November 7-9

2024 Tip A Cop photos and videos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1loo5qQ0flO-wtm5Yifpd7-B4yuJiAqdB?usp=drive link Credit for all: Special Olympics Hawaii

HONOLULU – From serving our community to serving your favorite meals, off-duty, volunteer law enforcement officers across Oahu will trade in their badges for aprons during Special Olympics Hawaii's <u>Tip A Cop fundraiser</u>. The event takes place Friday, November 7, through Sunday, November 9, at four California Pizza Kitchen locations and two Goma Tei locations on Oahu. During Tip A Cop, officers serve guests at participating restaurants by bringing their food and busing tables – all to raise awareness and resources for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes and programs. The event will take place during the following dates and times:

California Pizza Kitchen – Ka Makana Aliʻi, Kahala Mall, Kailua Town Center and Pearlridge Center

- Friday, November 7: 5 p.m. 9 p.m.
- Saturday, November 8: 11 a.m. 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. 9 p.m.
- Sunday, November 9: 11 a.m. 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. 9 p.m.

Goma Tei – Kahala Mall and Pearlridge Center

• Friday, November 7: 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

- Saturday, November 8: 11 a.m. 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. 9 p.m.
- Sunday, November 9: 11 a.m. 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. 9 p.m. (Pearlridge Center 5 p.m. 8:30 p.m.)

"We are thrilled to bring Tip A Cop back this fall, and are so grateful for the support of our restaurant partners California Pizza Kitchen and Goma Tei," said Tracey Bender, Special Olympics Hawaii's Director of Development. "This event not only raises critical funds for our athletes but also allows our community to see the incredible commitment of our off-duty, volunteer officers who support our mission. We invite everyone to join us in supporting Special Olympics Hawaii and making a meaningful impact for our athletes."

Since its inception, Tip A Cop has raised \$575,259 for Special Olympics Hawaii. Proceeds from this fundraiser will help Special Olympics Hawaii continue to provide year-round sports training and competition and health, wellness and leadership programs for over 3,000 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, please visit www.sohawaii.org. Follow Special Olympics Hawaii on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/sohawaii.

###

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 to serve 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: <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Instagram</u>. Learn more at <u>www.sohawaii.org</u>.